



**MaineHealth Statement on Reproductive Health Care
March 28, 2025**

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, please accept this written testimony on behalf of MaineHealth in opposition to any proposed legislation that seeks to reduce access to reproductive health care or legislates the patient-provider relationship.

MaineHealth is an integrated hospital system providing access to a continuum of health care services to the residents of eleven counties in Maine and one in New Hampshire. MaineHealth strives to meet its vision of “Working Together so Our Communities are the Healthiest in America” through the delivery of exceptional care to our patients; training Maine’s health care workforce of the future through our academic and workforce training programs; and supporting innovation and research through the MaineHealth Research Institute.

As part of our mission and vision, MaineHealth offers a continuum of reproductive health care services throughout the footprint we serve. MaineHealth strongly believes that our patients should have a voice in their care, including the right to choose whether to terminate a pregnancy. Health care decisions, including those involving reproductive health, are appropriately and best made between a health care provider and their patient.

Additionally, health care providers are bound by ethical guidelines of informed consent and shared decision making. Their success is based on mutual trust and respect with their patients and is achieved through individualized conversations and the mutual sharing of information. With that said, MaineHealth opposes any legislation that attempts to legislate the patient-provider relationship and that forces providers to violate ethical standards related to patient autonomy by forcing a patient to receive treatment and services without respecting the patient’s own desires.

We urge you to oppose any efforts reduce access to reproductive health care or legislation that legislates the provider-patient relationship. Thank you for your consideration.