

Nichole Dunn  
Bar harbor  
LD 174

Dear members,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to you as a concerned constituent and parent in Maine in favor of LD 727 An Act to Repeal Certain Immunization Requirements for Schools and LD 174 An Act to Restore Religious Exemptions to

Immunization Requirements. I urge you to consider supporting both LD 727 and LD, granting parents the ability to make informed decisions about the health and well-being of their children.

While I understand the importance of public health, I believe that health decisions should ultimately be made by families, not dictated by the government. Parents, as the primary caregivers, have the best understanding of their children's health needs and values. The right to informed consent is a fundamental principle that allows families to make decisions based on their individual circumstances, without the fear of government-imposed mandates.

Furthermore, individuals should have the right to make medical decisions based on their religious beliefs. Many families, including those who adhere to specific faiths, may have religious convictions that influence their health choices. These beliefs should be respected, and individuals should not be forced to violate their conscience in order to comply with medical mandates. The right to practice one's religion freely is a cornerstone of our democracy and should be upheld in all aspects of life, including healthcare decisions.

Vaccination decisions should be made with input from both healthcare providers and parents, in a transparent and informed manner. Many parents are deeply concerned about the safety and efficacy of vaccines, and these concerns should be addressed through open dialogue, not by enforcing mandates that infringe upon personal and family autonomy.

I respectfully ask that you vote in favor of both LD727 and LD174 so parents can demonstrate informed consent and make decisions based on their understanding of their child's unique health situation or religious convictions. This would uphold the right to make medical decisions within the family and ensure that parents are empowered to make choices in the best interest of their children.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I trust that you will take these concerns seriously and work towards a solution that respects the rights of families in Maine.

Sincerely,<sup>[1]</sup><sub>SEP</sub>

Nichole Dunn  
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