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Readfield
LD 174

As the mother of a school aged child and a school nurse, both LD 174 and LD 727 affect me directly. I am personally and professionally invested in the health of my community and believe in the effectiveness of requiring certain immunizations for school attendance. I worked hard to bring all my students up to date on their vaccinations by Sept 2021 when the law went into effect and I do not want to take steps back.

Since the law passed in 2019, Maine's vaccination rates have risen significantly. For the first time, we've reached the 95% threshold needed for herd immunity. That means fewer outbreaks, safer classrooms, and stronger protection for vulnerable people who can't be vaccinated for medical reasons.

LD 174 would bring back non-medical exemptions, and LD 727 would go even further by eliminating vaccine requirements altogether. These changes would leave our families vulnerable to outbreaks of disease, threatening lives and our state's economy. We're already seeing surges in diseases like measles in 20 states with weaker laws, Maine shouldn't be next.

Vaccines aren't just a personal decision—they are a public health responsibility. As a Mainer, a mom, and a school nurse I want our state to continue following science and protecting all children, including those with compromised immune systems.

Please stand up for public health, our schools, and the will of Maine voters, who overwhelmingly upheld the vaccine law at the ballot box in 2020 with a majority in every county.