

Dear Senator Rafferty, Representative Murphy, and esteemed members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee,

My name is Chloe Whitbread, and I am submitting testimony in strong support of **LD 217**, *An Act to Require Schools to Provide Access to Free Condoms for Students in Grades 9 to 12 in the School Nurse's Office*. I am a student in grade 12 at York High School located in York, Maine.

I support LD 217 because I am passionate about youth having access to sexual health tools and education. With the proper tools, I think that everyone will make healthy choices. As a young person there are economic and logistical barriers that prevent people from making smart choices. This bill will work to support youth making safe and smart choices.

I also request that committee members amend the bill to make it more equitable and impactful by changing the language to say that condoms can be accessed in the school nurse's office "or locations authorized by the school nurse."

I urge the Committee to vote YES on LD 217.

Thank you,
Chloe Whitbread