Denise Pendleton Searsmont LD 217

I am in strong support of LD217, An Act to Require Schools to Provide Access to Free Condoms for Students in Grades 9 to 12 in the School Nurse's Office. As a parent of two children now in their 20s, I value the role school provided as another resource for information of all sorts, including sexual health. Parenting teens is a tough job and teens often don't want to turn to their parents to acknowledge or share their sexual life. While I did all I could to encourage their trust and an open dialogue, having an accessible public resource available that could provide condoms would have eliminated much stress and worry of undesired and unintended outcomes.

We know teenagers are having sex. Let's address this to ensure they develop healthy habits that will give them better chances at achieving their full potential as young adults.