

Ella Y
Brunswick
LD 1734

Senator Grohoski, Representative Cloutier, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation,

I'm writing in strong support of LD 1734, An Act to Exempt Over-the-counter Medicines from the Sales and Use Tax

This bill is about fairness, access, and public health. Over-the-counter medications, including contraception, are essential. They help people stay healthy, prevent illness, and plan their futures. Right now, prescription medications are exempt from sales tax in Maine, but over-the-counter ones are not. That doesn't make sense.

Access to birth control is a basic part of reproductive autonomy. Most women use contraception at some point in their lives, and most Americans support full access to it.

But cost, time off work, transportation, and stigma already make it hard for many people to get care. Adding a sales tax only makes those barriers worse, especially for people of color, LGBTQ+ folks, and those with low incomes.

This bill reduces those burdens. Please support LD 1734. Thank you.