May 14th, 2025

Dear Senator Grohoski, Representative Cloutier, and Esteemed Members of the Committee on Taxation,

My name is Cait Vaughan and I am submitting testimony on behalf of my employer, Grandmothers for Reproductive Rights (GRR!), and the more than 600 Maine residents we represent, in support of LD 1734. We are a grassroots organization that amplifies the voices and status of grandmothers and elders who work intergenerationally, through grassroots education, advocacy, and community-centered initiatives to secure access to sexual and reproductive health, rights, and justice for present and future generations.

GRR! works each day to remove unnecessary barriers that prevent Mainers from protecting their sexual health and exerting control over their reproductive futures. LD 1734 is a practical step to improving access for Mainers by removing the barrier of sales tax on essential healthcare products, including contraceptives. While this may seem like a small change, every little bit helps to free up access to birth control methods, which we know are essential to promoting equitable participation in educational and work opportunities for those capable of pregnancy.

Many GRR!s came of age during a period when birth control was illegal or highly restricted, so we have intimate knowledge of how critical it is to make contraceptives as widely available as possible for all people. We urge you to vote Ought To Pass on LD 1734.

Sincerely,

Caitlin Vaughan
Cait Vaughan

Director of Programs & Outreach