

Lora Moncure
Yarmouth
LD 335

Dear Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and Members of the Committee on Health and Human Services,

My name is Lora Travers Moncure, I live in Yarmouth. I am a Mainer, a teacher, and a mother of two. I urge you to vote Ought to Pass on LD 335.

Family planning means equal access to healthcare, regardless of income. I have accessed family planning services through Planned Parenthood mostly when I was younger and could not afford health insurance. Their services providing checkups, cancer screenings, and birth control were integral to my well-being and independence as a young woman, allowing me to focus on my studies and then eventually when I was living on my own and finding my first jobs out of college.

Had I not been able to access health care at Planned Parenthood during a time in my life when I could not afford care anywhere else, I know I would have struggled and the trajectory of my life would have been very different. Being able to access the health care I needed, when I needed it, through Planned Parenthood enabled me to focus on my studies and then my career. Through my own experience, I understand the value and importance of Planned Parenthood as a critical provider of health care to anyone who needs it.

Mainers face barriers to care, including financial and logistical challenges of accessing a provider, challenges that are especially difficult in more rural areas of Maine. Family planning providers are often the first and only medical provider patients see in a year, making the family planning care network a critical safety net for the tens of thousands of patients who access services from these providers each year.

Planned Parenthood has played a critical role in my life, and I believe everyone deserves to access health care, regardless of their income or where they live. Mainers are counting on these leaders to safeguard reproductive health care access. Please vote Ought to Pass on LD 335. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lora Travers Moncure