

Augustin Villarreal
SUGAR LAND TEXAS
LD 335

Senator [Name of Chair], Representative [Name of Chair], and honorable members of the Committee on Health and Human Services. My name is Augustin Villarreal, I am a resident of Sugar Land Texas, and I am here today to testify in support of LD 335, 'An Act to Safeguard Reproductive Rights,' and to urge your continued support for the essential funding of family planning services as outlined in the current budget proposals."

The Importance of Funding

"Regarding the funding for family planning: This is not merely a line item in a budget; it is a lifeline for our communities. In many of our rural areas, these clinics are the primary source of healthcare. The proposed \$2.25 million to backfill federal cuts is a necessary investment that ensures Mainers continue to have access to cancer screenings, STI testing, and wellness exams. By supporting this funding, we are supporting the economic stability of families who rely on these services to plan their futures and remain in the workforce."

Safeguarding Rights (LD 335)

"Furthermore, I urge you to support LD 335. This legislation is a moderate and necessary step to ensure that medical decisions remain where they belong: between a patient and their trusted healthcare provider. It protects our medical professionals from political interference and ensures that Mainers can access the care they need right here at home, without being forced to travel out of state during difficult medical circumstances."