

Susan Davis.Doughty
Scarborough
LD 335

My name is Susan Davis Doughty, and I am a Women's Health Nurse Practitioner testifying in support of LD 335, An Act to Safeguard Reproductive Rights. As a direct care practitioner for Maine women for over 36 years I have witnessed the need for education, cancer screening, mental health counseling, STI testing, and even primary care, since many women rely on their reproductive practitioner to guide them in decisions about their bodies. I personally have used Family Planning and Planned Parenthood services before becoming a Nurse Practitioner, and have donated regularly to both. I have referred patients to both as well. Costs for care, especially in rural and underserved areas, far exceed MaineCare and federal reimbursement, and are absorbed by these practices. We must address any inequity by funding this vital resource for our patients who need these services. Thank you very much.