



SAFE Maine

February 25, 2026

Dear Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer and the members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services,

Safe Abortions For Everyone, also known as SAFE Maine, is submitting testimony to share our support and urge you to vote in favor of LD 335: An Act to Safeguard Reproductive Rights.

SAFE Maine is Maine's abortion fund. Our mission is to provide financial support to individuals traveling to, living in, or from Maine who need assistance paying for their abortion and associated costs, such as transportation, lodging, childcare, and lost wages. We have been helping Mainers afford their abortions since 1989. Abortion funds like ours operate in every state across the country. We are needed even in states, like Maine, with strong, supportive abortion laws, because legal protections for the right to abortion do not ensure accessible care for all of us.

Reproductive rights are under an unprecedented level of attack. The Trump Administration and anti-abortion lawmakers continue to weaponize every tool available to them to block access to care with the goal of making abortion out of reach for everyone, including us here in Maine. The latest strategy is to hamstring reproductive health care providers, like Maine Family Planning and Planned Parenthood, blocking patients from accessing a wide range of essential health care. In response to these relentless attacks on our freedom and well-being, it is critical that Maine takes action. We must safeguard access to reproductive freedom by ensuring ongoing support for Maine's family planning network with LD 335. Last year, SAFE Maine financially supported 454 abortion patients, with over half of these patients receiving their care at a clinic within Maine's family planning network. Without these clinics, abortion seekers would be forced to travel further for care, and for too many, it would push care out of reach.

SAFE Maine's mission is focused on abortion access but our vision for the future is expansive. We want a world where all of us - no matter our income or what part of the state we live in - are able to get the healthcare we need, close to home and with healthcare providers we trust.

Maine's family planning network plays a key role in building this world. Their network ensures that nearly 30,000 Mainers annually are able to access the sexual and reproductive health care we need. These services allow us to plan our families and futures, get tested and treated for sexually transmitted infections, receive gender-affirming care, have our annual cancer screenings, and receive other preventative care. With a half-century of experience and 60 locations across our state, the family planning network is a trusted lifeline in our communities. For many individuals who get their care within the family planning network, it is their only source of healthcare each year, underscoring the network's significant impact on public health and individual well-being. Simply put, Mainers depend on their essential services.

Please support LD 335 and safeguard access to reproductive rights in Maine. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Abbie Strout-Bentes
Executive Director
SAFE Maine



info@safemaine.org



PO BOX 752
Portland, ME 04104



safemaine.org