

Deborah Starkel
Yarmouth
LD 335

To The Committee on Health and Human Services

My name is Deborah Starkel and I am testifying in support of LD 335, An Act to Safeguard Reproductive Rights. I submit these remarks as a woman of faith and I promote justice, equity and compassion in human relations, and the inherent worth and dignity of every person. I support the Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network (MUUSAN).

As a woman and a retired registered nurse, I believe I should have control of my body and what happens to it. I believe the government should not dictate what kind of care I should receive when my body is in need of care. I stand up for organizations that provide the services a female body may need. These health care providers listen to my concerns and together we agree on a plan of care. The dismantling of these organizations because they may go against the beliefs of some religious, social, or political group is unconscionable. The federal government, by way of the Department of Health and Human Services, has done this. The State of Maine needs to stand up for its people.

Thank you,
Deborah Starkel
Yarmouth, ME