



Christian Civic League of Maine

Senator Bailey, Representative Perry and members of the Maine Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services, I am Mike McClellan, Policy Director for the Christian Civic League of Maine. The Christian Civic League of Maine envisions a state and nation where God is honored, religious freedom flourishes, families thrive, and life is cherished. We believe a Biblical approach works in life and including in governance.

I am here to testify in opposition to LD 263 *An Act to Ensure Access to Health Care -sponsored by Rep. Melanie Sachs of Freeport*. My immediate concern with LD 263 is that this bill was listed as a concept draft. Thus, there is little information for regular observers of the Mainer Legislative process let alone people who are not able to follow regularly. This legislation is an example of what is wrong with this process. While it may not be the intent, it would give the appearance of a process that is lacking in integrity. I also understand that an amendment was offered in the past few days, looking at maine.gov failed to share that vital information.

In trying to learn what the sponsor intends with this bill, I am told it would have a negative affect on Catholic Hospitals...actually blocking them from expansion. If you are unaware, these Catholic Hospitals serve people in great need, women, children, minorities. People who are both in need of services and are in lower income levels of society. Catholic Hospitals serve a significant place in the health care market and often are the only resource in rural areas. As we see this onslaught of abortion legislation thrusts on us thus session to support a large corporation eager to corner the market on profit, exempt from health and safety inspections in Maine – I understand why this bill is trying to sneak through. Your choice appears simple today, please vote to support women in Maine and oppose LD 263.

Thank you for your time and consideration today.

Know that many are hopeful of your actions and are praying for you and your families. God bless.

Mike