

LD 935 – An Act to Remove Barriers to Abortion Coverage in Private Insurance
Oppose

Senator Bailey, Representative Perry, and members of the Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Committee. My name is Karen Vachon. I am the Executive Director of Maine Right to Life in Auburn, and I am a licensed health insurance agent, with an agency in Cape Elizabeth, and former State Representative from Scarborough. I oppose LD 935: An Act To Remove Barriers to Abortion in Private Insurance.

As a Licensed health insurance agent, I work with clients who have expensive dread diseases, in many cases, through no fault of their own – the condition is genetic. Such diseases include diabetes, cancer, and heart disease. There is not one single health insurance plan offered in the individual market here in Maine that has No Deductible, No Copayment, No Co-insurance, and No Cost sharing for any of these conditions.

In contrast, this bill proposes to cover abortion far more favorably. A result of an unwanted pregnancy, that could have been prevented by abstaining from sexual relations, or using birth control – which, BTW, is covered 100% under the ACA.

Does it seem fair that coverage for an elected abortion is far better coverage than any other medical condition? I'm struggling to see the equity in this proposed legislation.

Pregnancy is NOT a disease. Abortion is NOT healthcare. The vast majority of pregnancies can EASILY be prevented; since, for the most part, individuals can access free and/or affordable contraceptives to completely avoid pregnancy. Abortion should not be covered 100% under any health insurance policy. Please vote Ought Not To Pass!

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