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Statement by Cynthia Johnson

To Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary

Regarding LD 780, RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of  
Maine to Protect Personal Reproductive Autonomy

January 22, 2024

Sen. Carney, Rep. Moonen, and members of the Judiciary Committee, I am Cynthia Johnson of Belgrade, Maine. I am opposed to this bill before you today.

My mother was very ill when she was carrying me! The doctor wanted to abort me! We lived in a duplex house and the lady (a Catholic) that lived on the other side of us was standing by mom's bedside and said, "You will not abort this child." The doctor informed my dad that we both would die if he did not abort me! If by any chance we lived, I would be very ill and I was, until penicillin. My mom lived to be 54 and see several of her grandchildren! I am now an 89-year-old and a very healthy lady! God has blessed me to be married 68 years and we have three children who have given us nine grandchildren and three great grandchildren! My parents gave me Helen as a middle name, which was our neighbor's name! We called her aunt Helen as a tribute to her stand against abortion! God has been so good! To Him I give all the glory.

With LD 780, all the protective mechanisms for my mother and me would be eliminated. There would be none of us in my family listed above. The doctor recommended abortion, but he was wrong, and so is this bill.

Please vote "no" on L.D. 780. Thank you!