

SUPPORT FOR LD 670

“AN ACT TO ADDRESS COERCIVE CONTROL IN DOMESTIC ABUSE CASES”

Senator ~~Smith~~, Representative ~~Jones~~, and Committee Members,

I am here to support LD 670: "*An Act to Address Coercive Control in Domestic Abuse Cases*". Coercive control is a pattern of behavior to dominate and control; it affects many Maine individuals and families. Often this type of behavior goes unnoticed by other people but is all too clear to the victim.

My 34-year experience with such abuse had me feeling fearful, trapped, and powerless, as my abuser withheld my money, passport, keys, vehicles, phone, and my freedom to go outside when I did not comply. This all happened under the pretense of love and protection. I have been away from that relationship for 11 months and I continue to grapple with a substantial amount of fear because of this type of abuse.

LD 670 is vital to help others escape sooner than I was able to. I urge you to move forward with it to protect victims of such abuse.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Candis Veilleux

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