



Testimony in Opposition to LD 143: An Act to Improve Women's Health and Economic Security by Funding Family Planning Services

March 10, 2025

Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, I am Nick Adolphsen, the Executive Director at the Christian Civic League of Maine. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today in opposition to *LD 143: An Act to Improve Women's Health and Economic Security by Funding Family Planning Services*.

Maine taxpayers are already footing the bill for extensive abortion and family planning services through MaineCare. Unlike federal policy, which places limits on taxpayer-funded abortion, Maine requires taxpayers to fund these services — even for late-term procedures.

Advocates for this bill insist the funding is for "non-abortion services," but that claim ignores a key reality: money is fungible. Just as a gift to cover someone's groceries frees up cash for other expenses, taxpayer dollars that cover general operations inevitably support the broader mission — a mission that has resulted in nearly 70 million abortions nationwide in the last 50 years.

Over the past few years, Planned Parenthood and its allies have spent heavily on political campaigns in Maine and across the country. Now they're asking Maine taxpayers to foot the bill for \$6 million annually to bail them out. This isn't just frustrating — it's wrong. Planned Parenthood has invested significant resources in shaping political outcomes, and now they're seeking taxpayer dollars to support their operations. While that may be technically legal, it doesn't sit right with many Mainers — nor should it. Regular taxpayers should not be forced to participate or fund that kind of political maneuvering.

Beyond the ethical concerns, the timing couldn't be worse. Maine is facing a serious budget crunch, and critical services are already at risk. Healthcare providers are being threatened with non-payment, childcare workers are struggling with reduced support, and direct care staff have been denied promised cost-of-living adjustments. Meanwhile, Planned Parenthood — a politically powerful and well-funded organization — is asking for an extraordinary cash infusion.

To hardworking Mainers, \$6 million is real money — money that could make a meaningful difference elsewhere.

Think with me about the things you can buy for \$6 million dollars:

- Rent for over 250 Maine families for an entire year
- Four years of tuition at the University of Maine for more than 100 students
- Childcare costs for up to 600 Maine families for a year

So here is the \$6 million dollar question: Do we use \$6 million in hard earned taxpayer dollars to fund our future or to fund our demise?

I strongly urge you to reject LD 143. Maine's families deserve better. Thank you for your time and consideration.