

Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer, and Members of the Committee on Health and Human Services, I'm Sarah McDarby, I live in Woolwich and I urge you to vote Ought to Pass on LD 143.

I am a mother of 2 adopted children. Both of my kids were born early and with drug exposure. As an adoptive parent, here is why I support this bill. Both of my children's birth mothers had experienced poverty, addiction and abuse. And they both had limited access to resources, including proper healthcare. This is only one example of the many instances in which access to family planning care is extremely lacking. I believe that these women, as well as all women, deserved better. I believe that my children deserved better. If their birth mothers had had access to proper prenatal care and addiction counseling, my children would likely have been born with less challenges. Challenges that they are still working to overcome. Maine people rely on family planning care providers, and for many Mainers, those are the only medical providers they can access. This bill strengthens families. Period. Everyone deserves support and proper care, no matter their financial situations.

Please vote Ought to Pass on LD 143.