

Pinette, Susan

From: Tim L <tim@saltylens.me>
Sent: Friday, March 21, 2025 10:58 AM
To: Rielly, Morgan; Salisbury, Suzanne; Cmte JUD; Legislature: Legislative Information
Subject: Subject: Westbrook Resident STRONGLY Opposing LD 975 - A Dangerous Assault on Reproductive Rights

This message originates from outside the Maine Legislature

Dear Representatives Salisbury and Rielly, and Members of the Judiciary Committee. I hope you guys are the right people to email on this. I hope I got my emails right, our state websites are not the easiest thing to navigate but here it goes.

I am writing as a deeply concerned Westbrook resident and parent to express my vehement opposition to LD 975, "An Act To Repeal Laws Allowing Abortion And To Criminalize Abortion." This bill represents a dangerous and callous attack on the reproductive rights and healthcare access of Maine citizens.

Let me be crystal clear: this regressive legislation is complete bullshit. It is particularly infuriating that some lawmakers, who will never personally face the life-threatening scenarios this bill would create, feel entitled to impose such dangerous restrictions on others. As the parent of a daughter, I am horrified at the thought of her growing up in a state where her bodily autonomy and potentially her life could be threatened by such extreme policies.

The real-world consequences of similar abortion bans in states like Texas and Florida provide disturbing evidence of the harm this bill would cause. Women with ectopic pregnancies and pregnancy complications have been forced to wait until they're on the verge of death before receiving care. In Texas, women have died after being denied timely miscarriage care because doctors feared prosecution under the state's abortion ban. Emergency rooms have turned away patients in medical distress, and healthcare providers report delaying treatment for conditions like ectopic pregnancies that could quickly become fatal.

Do you want Maine hospitals to be forced into the same impossible position as those in Texas, where women have had to miscarry in public restrooms because doctors were too afraid to provide standard medical care? Do you want Maine doctors second-guessing life-saving treatments because they fear prison time? Like wtf are we doing here guys?

Maine voters have repeatedly demonstrated their support for reproductive rights. This bill flagrantly disregards the will of your constituents and attempts to impose extremist views (and I mean this without an ounce of exaggeration) on our state. The evidence from other states shows clearly that "life of the mother" exceptions don't work in practice - they force women to become critically ill before intervention is allowed.

As my representatives, I expect you to stand firmly against this harmful legislation. I am demanding that you use your position and influence to ensure this bill dies in committee. Maine must continue to protect reproductive rights, not criminalize essential healthcare.

I will be closely monitoring the progression of this bill and how my representatives vote on this matter. This issue will absolutely influence my vote in future elections.

I appreciate your time and attention to this critical issue. I really hope I'm not shouting this into a fkn void. Also sorry for making it this long, I know y'all are busy.

Sincerely,
Tim Lazimov
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Westbrook maine resident