

Testimony of
Ruth Rogers

Senator Ingersoll, Representative Meyer, and members of the **Committee on Health and Human Services**, my name is Ruth Rogers and I live in Bangor. I am here to give testimony in opposition to **LD 335, An Act to Safeguard Reproductive Rights**.

If **federal dollars** stop flowing to **Planned Parenthood** and **Family Planning** because of their abortion practices, Maine taxpayers should **not** be forced to bail them out.

If we are talking about bailouts, let's start with life-giving care. Across Maine, maternity wards and birthing centers have closed because hospitals say they lack sufficient funding.

For the baby coming into the world, **it is becoming harder to find care in many parts of Maine.** Over the last decade, eleven birthing units in Maine have closed, four of which closed in 2024, forcing people to travel greater distances to give birth. Aroostook lost half of its maternity wards; Waldo County saw its only birthing unit close; and there are now no hospital labor and delivery services in northern Penobscot.¹

If Maine truly has money to spare, it should go toward reopening and strengthening those services — the ones that **protect** mothers and babies.

As you know, in the last legislative session, Maine lawmakers already authorized millions in direct state funding for abortion providers. Abortion groups asked for taxpayer dollars — and they received them.

I urge you to **stop using taxpayer money to underwrite** an industry that **measures success** by the number of abortions performed = prematurely ending human lives here in Maine.

Honorable Committee Members, I urge you to use your leadership position to reject **LD 335**. I urge you to be fiscally responsible on behalf of **all** citizens of Maine. Thank you.

¹**Source:** “See where all of Maine’s delivery wards and nursing homes have closed in the last decade” by Rose Lundy, Sept. 25, 2025, <https://themainemonitor.org/healthcare-closure-maps>