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LD 2203

Hello, my name is Karen, I currently live in Brunswick, and I'm very excited to hear that the FDA has approved Opill, our first nonprescription daily oral contraceptive.

The option to get an oral contraceptive without a prescription removes barriers such as logistical challenges (e.g. arranging transportation and child care) and privacy / confidentiality concerns. Such barriers are the greatest for people who do not have easy access to a health care provider and those who face stigma or discrimination in the health care system - including people of color, LGBTQ+ folks, and young people.

Unfortunately, even with the Opill, a barrier still exists: With so many people struggling with food and housing costs, a monthly payment of \$40 could put this opportunity out of reach.

I understand that our current state law requires insurers to cover all FDA-approved prescription contraceptive methods without cost-sharing. Now that we have a *non*prescription daily oral contraceptive, it makes sense to expand state law to also require insurers to cover all FDA-approved over-the-counter contraceptive methods without cost-sharing.

Therefore, please vote "ought to pass" for LD 2203, to ensure that this breakthrough in reproductive freedom is available to as many people as possible. Thank you!