

Rachel Driscoll
Scarborough

Dear Health and Human Services Committee,
I am writing you to ask that you vote ought to pass LD 867-an Act to Prohibit Mandatory Covid-19 Vaccinations for 5 Years to Allow for Safety Testing and Investigations into Reproductive Harm. I am writing you as an RN of nearly 18 years that left my long time career in bedside nursing on October 29th 2021 due to the Covid 19 vaccine mandate. I did not come to by decision lightly and in the end my deep concern for my health outweighed my career because there was no room left for compromise. My greatest concern came when my aunt, also an RN, received the covid-19 vaccine and soon after developed a blood clot in her retina which eventually led to permanent blindness. It was devastating for her and for me watching her have to live with her vaccine injury. This injury coupled with the fact that I am covid -19 recovered greatly influenced my decision. There is so much we don't know about the current covid 19 vaccines and the science is continuing to evolve. I, along with many just are uncomfortable with the unknown. The mandate imposed on all healthcare workers was rushed into. Just last week alone 1300 healthcare workers, presumably mostly vaccinated, were out of work with covid-19. Because of my decision for what is best for my own health I may no longer work as an RN in the state of Maine even though I am able, willing, have natural immunity, am greatly skilled, and our state is in desperate need of RNs. This has affected my ability to support my family and I have to seek work outside of the state of Maine to remain an RN. Thank you for your time in this important matter.