Thia Embers Southwest Harbor

Senator Claxton, Representative Meyer and the esteemed committee for Health and Human Resources, I am Thia Embers citizen of Southwest Harbor, Maine. I urge you to vote Ought to Pass for LD 867.

Normally it takes 8-15 years to create and safety test a vaccine. As we all know, the COVID-19 vaccines were produced at Warp Speed. I am concerned that there simply has not been enough time to determine the long-term safety of these vaccines, such as, do they cause cancer or will they interfere with reproduction. My concern is based on the fact that some pharmaceuticals in the past have been approved and prescribed that have caused these very issues. DES is an example of this. Diethylstilbestrol, was the 1st synthetic estrogen created and was prescribed to millions of women from 1938-1971. It was believed that DES would prevent miscarriage and ensure a healthy baby. It did not prevent miscarriage and the children born to DES mothers suffer from lifelong congenital defects. In the US it is estimated that 5-10 million people were exposed, both the women who were prescribed while pregnant and their children. DES mothers have a 30% higher risk of breast cancer. DES daughters are at a higher than average risk for rare cancers of the cervix and vagina and breast cancer. They can have structural changes to the reproductive tract. They have very high rates of infertility, miscarriage, stillbirth and ectopic pregnancy. DES sons have higher rates of malformed and undescended testes, hypospadias, and microphallus. The suffering of these affected children is immense. DES grandchildren show higher rates of genital and reproductive malformations and gender dysphoria. This medical tragedy was brought on by less than adequate drug testing, heavy promotion of the use of the drug and lax government regulations. Let's make ourse that we do not witness another medical tragedy. regulations. Let's make sure that we do not witness another medical tragedy. I urge you to vote ought to pass so that there is more time to investigate the long-term safety of the COVID-19 vaccine. I thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

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