

January 10, 2022

Good Afternoon Committee Members,

My name is Jessica Mosher and I am a resident of Winslow, ME. I am a Veteran of the United States Navy and I also served with the United States Marines during 9/11 in Camp Lejeune, NC. I am wife, mother of four and a Nationally Board Certified Registered Nurse. I have worked hard to obtain an ADN, BSN and MSN in my chosen field along with many skills and certifications. I currently work in a leadership position where I ensure that patient safety is upheld and that nurses and other healthcare workers are empowered to advocate not only for their patients, but for themselves.

I am writing today to respectfully ask that you vote Ought to Pass on LD867.

I come to you today as a nurse who has been affected by the COVID-19 vaccine mandate. Losing the job that I loved in a hospital I started my career in and with coworkers who quickly became a second family left me feeling broken and without a stable income for a time. I was let go after a decade of providing excellent patient care and demonstrating leadership skills that yielded me the 2nd highest position as a RN in the hospital. I can promise you the decision to accept or decline the mandated vaccine was nothing short of difficult. I was most certainly under distress 24/7 from the moment the mandate was announced live on TV by Governor Mills to the day I was fired on September 30, 2021. It is important to note that I am not against vaccines; I received my fair share as a service member because none of them raised a red flag. I worked hard to get to where I was and have exuberant passion for the field of nursing.

I do not feel consideration was given to the limited amount of studies on the mandated vaccine at hand. As a professor of Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice at a large university, I have firsthand knowledge on the difference between solid research and rushed

studies with significant limitations and questionable findings. With the studies that were done on the three vaccines offered to healthcare workers, I was more than uncomfortable to roll my sleeve up.

Just as I ensure my patients are always given a choice in their plan of care, I expect and deserve the same. Please grant us time and respect. Let us do the work we were called to do, serving the communities we have come to know.

Respectfully,

Jessica Mosher, MSN, BSN, RN-BC