Good morning Senator Claxon, Representative Meyers, and esteemed committee members. I am here today to urge you to vote "ought to pass" for LD 867, An Act to Prohibit Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccinations to Allow for Informed Consent

My name is Kellie Welch. I live in Gorham, and I am a Licensed Radiologic Technologist in State of Maine.

I am writing you today to voice my concern and opinion regarding this bill, so please take a moment to read why I feel this bill is so important for our families and communities in the State of Maine.

When Covid began as an epidemic, vaccines were dispensed to every State and looking back over the last two years we must admit the uncertainty it has become. The vaccination was rapidly pushed by our leaders, and they said if everyone got vaccination it would curb the covid numbers; if we got vaccinated or wore a mask it would lessen the infection, but as time went by, we saw new covid variants emerge.

Over time we also saw high numbers of adverse reactions and high numbers of deaths following COVID vaccinations. The public has the right to know and choose any medical intervention, only after being fully informed of their risks and benefits. The public has the right to be informed of any potential harm, injury, or death, especially where the vaccinations are to be administered to children.

I believe we are losing our most value possession, and that is our freedom to choose after being fully informed of risks. Every human being has the right to decide whether this vaccination is right for them. Forcing an individual to inject their body with an inadequately tested product is not right.

I used to work at Maine Medical Center as a Radiologic Technologist. I worked there for 31 ½ years before I was terminated because I refused the Covid vaccination. I was not fearful. I was an essential worker. I worked with covid patients, and I remained covid free. All these years working at MMC I never had the flu; I rarely called out sick other than some surgeries. I have a wonderful immune system that protected me from illness that I could have caught while working in the hospital. I credit my good health to a strong immune system and taking good care of myself.

Again, I will urge you to vote "ought to pass" for LD 867 as a safety measure for the State of Maine. This is a good bill and please put safety first!

Sincerely, Kellie Welch 7 Aspen Lane Gorham, Maine 04038 Registered and Licensed Radiologic Technologist in State of Maine 207-839-3314