

March 27, 2025

Paula Drouin  
Auburn  
LD682

Testimony of Paula Drouin in Opposition of LD 886 An Act to Regulate Medication Abortions

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn and honorable members of the Judiciary Committee. My name is Paula Drouin, resident of Auburn, Androscoggin County. Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to oppose LD 886 An Act to Regulate Medication Abortions.

This bill is similar to other bills being heard today, and my argument is the same. Access to safe abortion is a component of comprehensive health care and should be left to the individual.

Reasons for abortion include when the pregnancy is the result of a crime such as rape, incest, or child abuse, and social reasons, including poverty and already having children.

This bill aims to prohibit obtaining medication for abortion online by requiring the individual go to a medical provider. While the intent sounds good, it would make it incredibly difficult for those in rural areas and those without a medical provider or medical insurance to obtain the necessary medication. The World Health Organization states that “all women and girls at risk of an unintended pregnancy have a right to access emergency contraception”<sup>1</sup>.

Emergency contraception should remain available an “over the counter”, including accessible online.

This bill will prevent access to safe and early abortion. This bill will disproportionately affect rural and poor individuals. This bill will unnecessarily prolong unwanted pregnancies.

I urge you to vote “ought not to pass”.

Please uphold healthcare. Please trust and protect women.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/emergency-contraception>