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LD 975

I am writing in the strongest possible terms to oppose LD 975 – a dangerous, cruel, and extreme piece of legislation that seeks to criminalize abortion and strip away the rights of women across Maine.

As a woman living in rural Maine, I already know what it's like to face barriers when trying to access healthcare. We don't always have OB/GYNs in our towns. We drive hours for appointments. We juggle child care, missed work, and the emotional and physical demands of pregnancy with very little support. And now this bill wants to tell me that if I make the deeply personal decision to end a pregnancy, I could be treated like a criminal?

LD 975 would completely ban abortion in Maine, even in heartbreaking cases involving rape, incest, or severe medical complications. It redefines “human being” to start at conception—essentially opening the door to prosecute women and doctors for making private medical decisions.

This is not just an attack on reproductive rights. This is an attack on bodily autonomy, medical privacy, and the very idea that I can make choices about my own health and future. Under this bill, even miscarriages would be reported to the state like criminal investigations. That is terrifying. As someone who has friends who have miscarried—often in silence, with grief and heartbreak—I cannot fathom a world where that pain is met with bureaucracy and suspicion.

Let's be real: those who will suffer most under this bill are women like me—rural women, low-income women, women who can't fly out of state or take weeks off work to find care. This law would not end abortion; it would end safe, legal access to abortion and replace it with fear, criminalization, and suffering.

If a pregnancy goes wrong—if my life or the fetus's life is in danger—I don't want to have to wait for a court to weigh in. I want to be able to trust my doctor and make the best decision for my health, my family, and my future. LD 975 puts politicians in the exam room and treats women like criminals for needing healthcare.

This bill is cruel. It's unconstitutional. It's a direct assault on the women of Maine—and especially those of us living in places where care is already scarce. We deserve compassion, dignity, and the freedom to make our own decisions—not surveillance and criminal threats.

Reject LD 975. Keep the government out of our bodies, our homes, and our medical decisions.