

Sophia Richter  
Kittery  
LD 253

Sophia Richter and Connor Buckley  
Kittery, ME  
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LD 235 An Act to Prevent the MaineCare Program from Covering Abortion Services  
I testify against this bill

When Roe v Wade was struck down at the federal level, States became the governing bodies who could ensure that individuals the abortion care they needed and received was medically safe. If this law is enacted, it would remove Maine residents right to this care. People will always get abortions if they deem it necessary to their wellbeing regardless of whether it is legal or whether they have access to a safe approach. The Maine legislature has the choice to either give people the chance to do this in a safe way or not. MaineCare coverage of abortion services is a meaningful aspect of providing safe abortion care to Maine resident because it combats inequity for lower-income residents who may not have the financial capacity to afford paying for their abortion care out-of-pocket when this care is not covered by Medicaid. I support Maine being a state where access to affordable and medically safe abortion care is accessible for all of its residents, regardless of what may happen at the federal level. I understand that when the federal government abdicates its responsibility to fund abortion care through Medicaid, it shunts the cost onto States. Despite this, I support our state using tax-payer dollars to promote affordable access to safe medical care to all residents concerning abortion care because of its significant impact on people's physical health.