Cara Sammons-Shepard New Gloucester LD 253

LD 253 An Act to Prevent the MaineCare Program from Covering Abortion Services Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary

March 28, 2025

Good morning, Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, my name is Cara Sammons-Shepard, and I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony against LD 253 An Act to Prevent the MaineCare Program from Covering Abortion Services.

I am strongly against LD 253 because abortion is health care. Laws such as LD253 have proven time and time again to be actively harmful to women who are in need of potentially life saving medical care.

Women have the right to make medical decisions and decisions for their own bodily autonomy without governmental overreach. These medical decisions are no one's business besides the patient and their doctor's.

Maine has established with previous legislation that in this state, we believe in and value the protection of everyone's reproductive health and rights. LD's being introduced such as this current onslaught are an insult to the respect that Maine provides to all people and their health and healthcare choices.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my testimony. Please contact me with any questions you may have.