

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Maine Family Planning Responds to Senator Susan Collins' Decision to Vote Yes on Brett Kavanaugh Confirmation

AUGUSTA -- Maine Family Planning is outraged at Senator Susan Collins' decision to vote yes on Judge Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation to the US Supreme Court. This decision suggests a troubling disregard for women's well-being and bodily autonomy.

Even before allegations of sexual assault and misconduct surfaced, MFP opposed Kavanaugh's nomination based on his judicial record, which clearly threatens health care and abortion access, as well as LGBTQ, workers', and immigrant rights. MFP contributed to <u>Suit Up Maine's comprehensive report</u> released in August, outlining specific concerns about Kavanaugh's intentions with regard to constitutional protections for reproductive rights, including birth control and abortion access.

What has come to light in recent weeks has only strengthened our opposition – and resolve. We believe Dr. Christine Blasey Ford and we are grateful for her continued strength in the face of unthinkable misogyny. We believe the other survivors who have come forward to share their stories about Kavanaugh. We believe and trust women.

Despite this setback, we will continue our work supporting Maine women and families, empowering them to build the lives they envision.

"The Kavanaugh confirmation process unmasked the nominee as hostile, misogynist, entitled, and partisan," said George A. Hill, president and CEO of Maine Family Planning. "We said from Day One that Judge Kavanaugh does not belong on the US Supreme Court, and we are disappointed that Senator Collins didn't listen to us and the many other constituents who contacted her to voice their concerns about this dangerous nominee."

"Sen. Collins' vote guarantees Roe's demise. Access to abortion will soon depend on what state you live in," Hill continued. "Maine women will continue to have access to abortion whatever an anti-abortion Supreme Court rules. This right is secured by Maine's Reproductive Privacy Act. However, state laws can be changed in a single legislative session, which is why Mainers must participate in local elections and vote for candidates who support reproductive rights on November 6."

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## **About Maine Family Planning**

Maine Family Planning works to ensure that all Maine people have access to high-quality, affordable reproductive health care, comprehensive sexual health education, and the right to control their reproductive lives. Maine Family Planning provides reproductive health care at 18 clinics in Maine, oversees the state's Title X family planning network, partners with schools to provide comprehensive sexuality education, and works with legislators, community leaders, and other organizations committed to advancing the cause of reproductive freedom in Maine.

For more information: www.mainefamilyplanning.org