

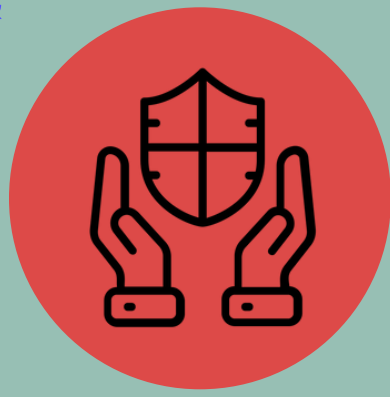
FIGHTING FOR FAMILY VALUES IN 2019



Maine Family Planning strives to empower Mainers to create & raise the families they envision. We're focusing on bills that expand & improve access to reproductive health care, including abortion, & proposals that strengthen Maine families, increase economic security, bolster public health, & improve day-to-day life for ALL our neighbors.

LD 820: AN ACT TO PREVENT DISCRIMINATION IN PUBLIC & PRIVATE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR PREGNANT WOMEN

Requires public & private insurance providers to cover the full range of pregnancy-related health care, including abortion care. Access to safe & legal health care services, including abortion care, should not depend on how much money you make or what type of insurance coverage you have.



LD 78: AN ACT TO FACILITATE ACCESS TO THE MAINECARE FAMILY PLANNING BENEFIT

Makes it easier for people to enroll in the MaineCare family planning benefit by providing for presumptive eligibility & automatic enrollment for people losing full MaineCare benefits. This will help uninsured & underinsured people access critical reproductive health care services, for free.



LD 494: AN ACT TO UPDATE THE FAMILY PLANNING STATUTE

Modernizes definitions of reproductive & sexual health care & recognizes the independent authority of advance practice registered nurses to provide reproductive health care. Public health law should be informed by science & medical experts.



-AN ACT TO PROHIBIT ABORTION AFTER THE DETECTION OF A FETAL HEARTBEAT -AN ACT TO RESTRICT THE TERMINATION OF A PREGNANCY AFTER A FETAL HEARTBEAT IS DETECTED

Would prohibit abortion as early as six weeks, in clear violation of *Roe v. Wade* & the Constitution. Maine Family Planning will strongly oppose these extreme bills, which would effectively outlaw abortion entirely.



LD 195: AN ACT TO CONTINUE MAINECARE COVERAGE FOR PARENTS DURING THE REHABILITATION AND REUNIFICATION PROCESS

Allows parents to continue health care coverage while they are attempting to regain custody of their children. Maine has higher than average rates of children placed in state care. Maine Family Planning supports legislation that seeks to resource vulnerable families so that loving parents have a chance at raising children in safety & with security.



- AN ACT TO SUPPORT HEALTHY MOTHERS & HEALTHY BABIES
- AN ACT TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF INFANTS AFFECTED BY NAS
- RESOLVE TO REDUCE THE INCIDENCE OF INFANTS EXPOSED TO ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES
- AN ACT RELATING TO THE PREVENTION & MANAGEMENT OF NAS

These bills all seek to address the increasing incidence of babies born exposed to opiates. Maine Family Planning will support legislation that recognizes the needs of Mainers who are struggling with addiction & are pregnant or at risk of unintended pregnancy. We will oppose any legislation that seeks to punish anyone for becoming pregnant while experiencing addiction & will work to bring science-based information to this challenging issue.



LD 37: AN ACT TO ALLOW FOR THE SALE OF NON-PRESCRIPTION DRUGS THROUGH VENDING MACHINES

Allows for the sale of emergency contraception via vending machines. We believe all forms of birth control should be conveniently accessible.

AN ACT TO ENSURE COMPREHENSIVE ACCESS TO MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS IN ALL MAINE'S CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

Makes menstrual products available at no charge in correctional settings for those who need them. Incarcerated Mainers do not give up their right to health & dignity at the prison door.



- AN ACT TO PROVIDE A SALES TAX EXEMPTION FOR FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS
- AN ACT TO SUPPORT MAINE FAMILIES THROUGH A SALES TAX EXEMPTION ON DIAPERS

For some families, tampons, pads & diapers are prohibitively expensive. Eliminating the sales tax on such items would leave more money in the pockets of low-income women, LGBTQ+ folks & families.

- AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE PERMANENT COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF RACIAL AND ETHNIC POPULATIONS
- AN ACT TO PROHIBIT PROFILING BY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Racial justice is essential to reproductive justice. To create the conditions in which people can raise children in safety, health & dignity, we must tackle the root causes & consequences of systemic racism.



AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE PROVISION OF CONVERSION THERAPY TO MINORS BY CERTAIN LICENSED PROFESSIONALS



Bars mental health professionals from working to change sexual orientation or gender identity. Such practices lack scientific credibility, are widely denounced by medical professionals & are detrimental to LGBTQ+ individuals – particularly young people.

AN ACT TO ALLOW COURT AND CONVICTION RECORDS OF VICTIMS OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND SEX TRAFFICKING TO BE VACATED

Creates a pathway for survivors of sex trafficking & sexual exploitation to have criminal convictions vacated. Maine Family Planning fully supports policy changes that make it possible for survivors of gender-based violence to build thriving futures, beyond shame & stigma.



- AN ACT TO RESTORE SERVICES TO HELP NEW RESIDENTS MEET BASIC NEEDS
- AN ACT TO PROTECT THE LIBERTY OF IMMIGRANTS & ASYLUM SEEKERS IN MAINE

Immigrant justice is essential to reproductive justice. Maine Family Planning supports efforts to assist immigrants, refugees & asylum seekers in our state. Not to do so is anti-poor & risks increasing health disparities along lines of race & citizenship, as well as driving public health crises at a time when our system is stretched thin.

AN ACT TO ENACT RESTRICTIONS ON THE PERFORMANCE OF PELVICE EXAMS WHILE THE PATIENT IS UNDER ANESTHESIA



Requires specific consent for medical professionals & students to perform pelvic exams. Maine Family Planning defends patients' rights to full information & bodily autonomy. Explicit consent within medical settings is of the utmost importance.

- AN ACT TO SUPPORT HEALTHY WORKPLACES AND HEALTHY FAMILIES BY PROVIDING EARNED PAID SICK LEAVE TO CERTAIN EMPLOYEES
- AN ACT TO PROVIDE ECONOMIC SECURITY TO MAINE FAMILIES THROUGH THE CREATION OF A PAID FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE SYSTEM

These pro-family bills would give workers necessary paid time off to care for ourselves, our children & our loved ones during times of illness & major life transitions. People should never have to choose between wellness or a paycheck.

LD 871: AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE CRIME OF ENDANGERING THE WELFARE OF A CHILD BY TRANSMITTING ILLEGAL DRUGS THROUGH BREAST MILK

Would create an element of Maine's criminal code that specifically targets vulnerable mothers struggling with substance use.

We know the rhetoric around substance use—particularly while pregnant or parenting young children—causes women who use drugs to feel isolated & ashamed to seek help. The criminalization of a disease inflicts even further harm, eroding trust & increasing barriers to care. We must reject narrow-minded, punitive approaches to dealing with substance use in Maine.



LD 589: RESOLVE, DIRECTING THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ADOPT RULES PROHIBITING TEACHERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS FROM ENGAGING IN POLITICAL, IDEOLOGICAL OR RELIGIOUS ADVOCACY IN THE CLASSROOM

This bill seeks to censor educators & deny students full & accurate information about historical & ongoing oppression & social inequities. Maine Family Planning will oppose this attack on Maine students' right to a critical education.



AN ACT TO CREATE A COMMISSION TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF BASIC ECONOMIC SECURITY FOR ALL MAINE PEOPLE



Resolve will establish a Basic Economic Security Commission to facilitate a feasibility study of unconditional cash transfer program, which can increase the number of Maine people who have basic economic security. Maine Family Planning supports innovative efforts that put power & resources in the hands of vulnerable communities.

Join us in advancing a public policy agenda for Maine that promotes true family values, grounded in science & compassion.