



TO: The Honorable Anne Carney
The Honorable Matt Moonen, Co-Chairs
Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary

DATE: November 6, 2023

RE: DRAFT [LD 1902](#), An Act to Protect Personal Health Data - Rep. Maggie O'Neil of Saco

Good morning Senator Carney and Representative Moonen.

My name is Ann Luther. I am a resident of Trenton. I'm submitting this written testimony on behalf of the League of Women Voters of Maine, where I serve as a volunteer and chair the League's Advocacy Committee.

The League of Women Voters of Maine is a nonpartisan political organization that has been working for over 100 years to encourage informed and active participation in government, to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and to influence public policy through education and advocacy. We never support or oppose any political party or candidate.

The League of Women Voters believes that public policy in a pluralistic society must affirm the constitutional right of privacy of the individual to make reproductive choices. This includes data privacy. Neither law enforcement nor commercial entities should have access to private information scraped from the digital sphere related to someone's pregnancy status or reproductive services sought or delivered. Purveyors of digital data should not be able to use location data to determine if someone has visited a clinic providing reproductive care. They should not be able to scrape information from smartphone applications to determine someone's pregnancy status.

We find it alarming that this issue should even be open for discussion. Yet powerful players in the information ecosystem have created a Wild West of poor regulation and little or no accountability. We applaud every effort to restore basic protections for health information especially where, to date, the industry has shown little regard for these values.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I would be happy to answer any questions from the Committee.

LWVME to VLA
LD XXXXXX

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