



Maine Women's Lobby

THE VOICE OF MAINE WOMEN

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

For Immediate Release:

June 8, 2011

Media Contact:

Sarah Standiford, Maine Women's Lobby, 207.837-2609 (cell), 207.622.0851, ext. 20 (office)

### **Maine House Stands Up for Civil Rights**

***Maine Women's Lobby Lauds Votes to Uphold Reproductive Privacy, Maine Human Rights Act***

*Statement of Sarah Standiford*

*Executive Director, Maine Women's Lobby*

“Late last night the Maine House of Representatives stood firm against efforts to roll back access to reproductive health care and civil rights protections for transgendered Mainers.

“These bills were defeated by wide margins—and for good reason. Maine lawmakers understand the danger of unraveling decades of bipartisan compromise. In upholding Maine law, they put the health Maine women and teens first instead of erecting impossible barriers to comprehensive health care services. In defending the Maine Human Rights Act, they refused to put the rights and safety of transgendered Mainers at risk.

“They also took a stand for putting focus where it's needed—jobs and the economy—rather than policing the personal, private decisions between women and their doctors.

“We thank members of the Maine House who voted against these bills and urge the Senate to reject those bills up for remaining votes: L.D. 116, 924, 1457, and L.D. 1046.”

*The Maine Women's Lobby is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, membership organization working since 1978 to increase opportunities for women and girls through advocacy and legislative action.*

# # #