



Maine Women's Lobby

THE VOICE OF MAINE WOMEN

MEDIA RELEASE

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New Leader Anticipated at the Maine Women's Lobby

*Executive Director, Sarah Standiford, Undertaking New Role Promoting Access to
Reproductive Health Care*

Augusta – After eight successful years with the Maine Women's Lobby and its sister organization, the Maine Women's Policy Center, Executive Director, Sarah Standiford will be stepping down at the end of July to pursue new opportunities. The organizations will launch a nationwide search for a new Executive Director in August.

“It has truly been a privilege to lead the Maine Women's Lobby's campaigns to promote the interests of Maine's women and girls,” said Standiford. “I am confident that whoever is chosen to lead the organization will have tremendous success working alongside the highly skilled, thoughtful and dedicated members of our staff, members, and Board of Directors.”

Standiford, who lives in Richmond, Maine, will continue advocating for women's full equality as the new Regional Field Manager for Planned Parenthood Federation of America, based out of the Planned Parenthood of Northern New England affiliate in Portland. “Now is a critical time to be building the movement for reproductive rights, social justice, and access to health care, and I'm thrilled to be participating in this way,” said Standiford.

As Executive Director since 2003, Standiford oversaw the organizations' public policy development, research, organizing, and advocacy efforts, representing the needs of Maine women to policymakers and the media in the areas of affordable healthcare, reproductive privacy, economic security, discrimination, and freedom from violence.

Under Standiford's leadership, the organizations' staff has grown from two to six members, and the Maine Women's Lobby has led successful efforts to expand protections for domestic violence victims, raise the minimum wage, increase access to family medical leave and promote other vital protections for women and girls.

"Sarah has been an exceptional leader for our organizations," said Charlotte Warren, Associate Director. "Her dedication, insight and passion for the well being of women and families has made a tremendous impact on the evolution of our efforts. Also, at a personal level, she's just such a wonderful person and will be sorely missed."

Katherine Lynch O'Grady, former head of the Maine Women's Lobby Board of Directors, will serve as Interim Executive Director of the organization until the position can be filled. The search for a new Executive Director will begin in August. "We are looking for a leader who, like Sarah, is committed to our mission of equal opportunity for women and prepared to meet our ambitious goals," said O'Grady. "We are confident that the person we choose will propel us forward and continue the great work we've done for Maine's women and girls."

"I have been so fortunate to work with women across the state committed to our mission of equal opportunity. Together, we've made a tremendous impact." said Standiford. "I am confident that the new Executive Director will continue the Maine Women's Lobby's three decades of success."

The Maine Women's Lobby Board of Directors invites prospective candidates to visit www.mainewomen.org for the Executive Hiring announcement and application process.

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

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