



**To: Chair Bob Lynn, Vice Chair Dennis Mannion, and the House Judiciary Committee**  
**Re: Testimony in Opposition to HB 1313, repealing buffer zones for reproductive health care facilities.**

**Date: February 11, 2026**

**Position: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

The Lovering Health Center in Greenland is a non-profit licensed health care facility in New Hampshire. We have provided safe, evidence-based abortion care for over 45 years. During that time, we have experienced fire bombing, property destruction, and historically disruptive protest. We have demonstrators in front of our facility regularly, often on a daily basis.

Buffer zones help ensure that patients and their providers can enter reproductive health care facilities safely, without fear of threats, intimidation, or violence. New Hampshire's law is not mandatory. *The option to enforce a buffer zone is an important tool* in maintaining a safe space around reproductive health care facilities like the Lovering, while respecting the free speech rights of anti-abortion individuals to express their opinions, distribute literature or engage in conversations with willing parties outside that space.

We make significant investments in security as threats to abortion providers and our patients remain very real. We also collaborate with our local police department to maintain safety in the public space around our facility. Our New Hampshire colleagues' experiences have varied in historical and recent years. We all protect the balance between our patients' and staffs' rights to come to their appointments or to work with safety and the rights of free speech for community members. Our ability to ensure this balance of safety would be negatively impacted by HB 1313.

Laws securing people's safe entrance into reproductive health care facilities are part of a long tradition of government action aimed at safeguarding the exercise of fundamental rights – like voting, going to school, and attending religious services – from interference by third parties. These laws serve an important purpose and do not infringe upon First Amendment expression.

I urge you to vote **Inexpedient to Legislate** on HB 1313.

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