

TO: Chairman Lynn and members of the House Judiciary Committee
FROM: MacKenzie Nicholson, Co-Senior Director, MomsRising NH
DATE: Wednesday February 25, 2026



Thank you Chairman Lynn and members of the House Judiciary Committee for allowing me to submit this testimony in opposition to HB 1416, which prohibits certain government regulations regarding pregnancy resource centers in connection with abortion and contraception service offerings. My name is MacKenzie Nicholson and I am the Co-Senior Director of MomsRising New Hampshire, an on-the-ground grassroots organization representing thousands of moms and their families across the Granite State.

At MomsRising, we hear every day from families who are doing everything they can to stay afloat. Rising costs, inaccessible and unaffordable child care, housing pressures and property taxes are forcing families out of their homes and, in some cases, out of their communities. All while our kids' schools and our family supports face decreasing funding at the state and federal levels. We know our moms and our communities, and we deeply understand the challenges they are experiencing right now.

It is striking to hear this bill framed as support for moms through pregnancy resource centers. Just two weeks ago, we were in the House asking for your support on HB 1798, which would have helped families afford something as basic and necessary as diapers through Medicaid coverage. Diapers are not optional. They are essential to infant health, child care access and parents' ability to work. That bill represented a real opportunity to provide consistent, reliable support that meets the everyday needs of New Hampshire families. Yet it was tabled by the House majority - including every single House sponsor of HB 1416.

If the goal is truly to support mothers, then families must be able to access complete, medically accurate information and the full range of care they may need. Protecting centers that are not required to provide or refer for comprehensive reproductive health services does not empower parents. Instead, it risks leaving people without critical information at one of the most vulnerable moments of their lives. When families believe they are entering a medical setting or a comprehensive care provider, only to receive incomplete or misleading information, care may be delayed, health risks may increase and trust in our health systems may erode.

Let's be honest about who this impacts the most. Families with lower incomes, young parents and those in areas without adequate health care access are more likely to rely on free services. This is an increasingly common reality in New Hampshire due to workforce shortages and service reductions. These families may have fewer opportunities to seek second opinions or travel to another provider. Access without accuracy is not true access. Support without transparency is not real support.

It is also important to recognize that most people who seek abortion care are already parents.¹ Policies that allow incomplete or inaccurate information risk trapping families in cycles of hardship by limiting their ability to make fully informed decisions about their health, their futures, and the well-being of the children they already have.

New Hampshire has worked hard to improve maternal health outcomes and build systems that help families navigate care. Policies like this, which allow incomplete or factually inaccurate information and protect private entities that push false narratives, move us in the wrong direction.

Moms in New Hampshire are not asking you to protect or shield crisis pregnancy centers. We are asking you to support our families in tangible ways that keep our babies healthy and safe and help us navigate pregnancy and early parenthood with dignity. Parents deserve policies that meet real needs, not ones that create confusion or elevate ideology over care. If we truly want to support families in our state, we must prioritize transparency, evidence-based care and resources that families can rely on every day.

For these reasons, we strongly urge you to vote ITL on HB 1416.

¹ Studnicki J, Fisher JW, Longbons T, Reardon DC, Harrison DJ, Craver C, Tsulukidze M, Skop I. Estimating the Period Prevalence of Mothers Who Have Abortions: A Population Based Study of Inclusive Pregnancy Outcomes. *Health Serv Res Manag Epidemiol.* 2021 Jul 23;8:23333928211034993. doi: 10.1177/23333928211034993. PMID: 34368402; PMCID: PMC8312161.