

My name is Rev. Allison Palm. I am a Unitarian Universalist minister serving the Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashua, as well as a resident of Nashua. As a faith leader, I strongly support both HB 1673 and HB 1674.

Unitarian Universalists have long been in support of access to safe and legal abortion because we believe deeply in the right of conscience and the inherent worth and dignity of every person. I do not believe that it is the purpose or place of our state government to ban safe medical procedures. The only people who have the right to decide what is best for a pregnant person are the pregnant person themselves, with their doctor. My faith tells me that every body is sacred – including and especially those whose bodies can carry pregnancies - and every person has a right to holy agency over their bodies. Everyone is capable of making moral decisions related to their bodies and their reproduction. There are no easy answers for life's complex questions. Every pregnant person should be able to make the best decision for their own circumstance, and that includes abortion care. Each person must have the right to make these choices.

We are in a crisis moment when it comes to abortion access in this country. Nearly half the country could lose abortion access by June of next year. We can't let that happen here in New Hampshire. To honor the sacredness of life, and respect the holy agency each person has over their body, we must pass both HB 1673 and HB 1674, restoring and ensuring access to safe and legal abortion care here in the Granite State.