

I am outraged and terrified that the state of Connecticut is violating a woman's right to choose a safe and healthy place to go to receive assistance in her pregnancy, violating her health and safety, violating her right to free speech, and violating her freedom of religion in refusing to allow her to receive care in pregnancy centers that do not promote abortion.

When I was pregnant with my first child, I needed to find a place that could provide me with a free pregnancy test and proof of pregnancy so that I could get medical insurance to take care of me when I was in an unplanned pregnancy. I immediately was relieved to know that I could receive free and caring help at Hopeline in Danbury and they were very kind and helpful to me when I was in a very difficult situation. They assisted me in getting the proof of pregnancy that I needed but could not afford in order to get maternity insurance and medical care for me and my baby.

Hopeline Pregnancy Center in Danbury was the ONLY place I felt safe enough to go to without being harassed into getting an abortion and if they were not there, I would not have been able to immediately and safely get medical insurance in time to detect my gestational diabetes. I found their location online and was never under the impression that they provided any abortion services or any medical services other than pregnancy tests and ultrasounds. Their advertising was very clear that they were a pregnancy center designed to help needy pregnant women find the resources that they needed to support their pregnancy and parenthood.

If Connecticut tries to shutdown pregnancy centers or force them to promote abortion, they are taking away my choice to receive free care in a healthy and caring abortion free environment and violating women's right to freedom of religion and freedom of speech.

They are creating an unhealthy and fearful situation for women who understand the negative, unhealthy, dangerous, emotionally, mentally and morally abhorrent effects of abortion and do not want to practice or support it. They are being oppressive towards all the women who need their care and they are being dishonest and predatory if they are making the false claim that Hopeline and other pregnancy centers are using false advertising. They are also being violent and promoting violence by using force to compel women to promote violence against babies in the womb.

Everyone who I know that knows about Hopeline and other pregnancy centers understands that they support pregnancy, not abortion and would go elsewhere if they wanted an abortion. It is easy for me to find abortion services online but it is very difficult to find any alternatives, please stop taking away the options and choices of women who desperately need the services that pregnancy centers provide!

This is just more reason to entice me and other women and families to leave Connecticut and find a safer place to live in another state that doesn't try to take away my safety and freedom and force me to participate in and pay for moral values that I do not share. I know many other women who feel the same way. I need Connecticut to be pro-choice in allowing me the choice to receive care in a place that does not promote abortion.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my testimony in support of Hopeline Danbury and all other pregnancy centers that are pro-life. I hope that Connecticut will stop their tyrannical, unlawful and unconstitutional acts against women and women's pro-life pregnancy centers

Sincerely,
Janeane Dalton
resident of
New Milford, CT