

MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release

December 17, 2017

COALITION OF MAINE PROGRESSIVE GROUPS URGE SEN. SUSAN COLLINS TO VOTE NO ON TAX BILL

Maine (December 17, 2017) – A large coalition of Maine Progressive groups representing tens of thousands of Mainers have joined together to reject Susan Collins' support of the GOP Tax bill.

Senator Susan Collins was one of the 51 GOP Senators who chose to support a bill that economists, health policy analysts, and tax policy experts demonstrated would overwhelmingly benefit the wealthy and powerful business interests, damage health care systems, and massively increase the deficit. Despite an overwhelming majority of her constituents being opposed to this bill, Senator Collins continues to support it. And despite her claims of being in favor of bipartisan legislation and regular order, she voted for a bill which few had read, and which included no bipartisan input, debates, hearings, or expert testimony. If Senator Collins votes "yes" on the reconciled tax plan, she will be accountable for 50,000 Mainers losing their health insurance coverage and 79,200 Maine families facing a tax increase. Senator Collins' support of the GOP tax bill will hurt millions of Americans, and add \$1 trillion to our debt at a time when all economists agree we should be paying it down.

Constituents from all of Maine's 16 counties have held sit-ins, called, written, and visited her offices to voice their concerns. They have told their personal stories of how this tax bill will affect their lives. They have faced arrest for holding prayer vigils, locked doors during office hours, and derision for their efforts to be heard. While Mainers appreciate her efforts to amend this bill, it is clear that those amendments do not go nearly far enough. A vote in favor of this bill is a blatant demonstration of a back turned to the needs and concerns of constituents. Senator Susan Collins' constituents urge her to hear them now. They urge her to oppose this dangerous bill that will harm them for decades to come.

Respectfully signed,

(see following page)

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Acadia Action
Brunswick Area Indivisible
Eliot Democrats
Indivisible Greater Portland
Indivisible Waldo
Maine AFL-CIO
Maine People's Alliance
March Forth
Peaks Indivisible
The Woodstove Alliance

Bangor Indivisible
Capitol Area Indivisible
Food AND Medicine
Indivisible Machias
Kittery Democrats
Maine Common Good Coalition
Maine: Rise Up! Be Heard!
Midcoast Maine Indivisible
Suit Up Maine

Bangor Racial and Economic Justice Coalition
Disability Activists and Allies of Maine (DAAM)
Harpwell Indivisible
Indivisible MDI
Lincoln County Indivisible
Maine Democratic Party
Mainers for Accountable Leadership
Oxford Hills Indivisible
Women's March Maine

