

Theresa Lamontagne
Biddeford
LD 1619

April 29, 2023
225 West Street
Biddeford, Maine 04005

Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary,

No LD 1619 The media has done a good job telling the very sad story of Dana Pierce's terrible ordeal. It did not however explain the ramifications of this extreme bill. This one tragic story is not enough reason to change the laws we have in Maine. This bill does not reflect the way most people feel. In fact, most people are not aware of how awful this bill is.

The Maine Attorney General stated current laws provide exceptions to the viability restrictions in the case of a fatal fetal diagnosis. So in essence, this bill is not necessary.

LD 1619 will allow a child to be aborted anytime before birth and for any reason. Unlicensed healthcare workers will be able to perform abortions without any repercussions if the mother is injured. The life and well being of the mother has been removed completely from the bill. The development of the child doesn't matter at all. This is not medical care!

Medical experts agree that fetal pain begins at 12 weeks. Many pro life organizations defend life based on the testimony of former abortionists. Resource information is provided.

The State of Maine currently allows abortion up to 20 weeks. I urge you to oppose this bill. Also I encourage you to take the time to understand the procedures of a late term abortion.

Resources:

- * Human Life International Do babies feel pain
- * Former abortionists testimonies Dr. Anthony Levatino and John Szenes
- * Journal of Medical Ethics (2019) Reconsidering Fetal Pain
- * Caring Network When does a fetus feel pain?
- * Lozier Institute Fact Sheet Science of fetal pain