

April 30, 2023

Dear Honorable Members of the Maine Legislature,

I wish to voice my opinion and concerns regarding:

**LD 1619 An Act to Improve Maine's Reproductive Privacy Laws**

This bill fits hand and glove with LD 1343 and amends the law governing abortion reports to eliminate the requirement to use the United States Standard Report of Induced Termination of Pregnancy.

Furthermore, this bill changes the standard for when an abortion may be performed after viability to when a licensed physician determines that it is "necessary" which is completely arbitrary. Instead of the current law of when it is necessary to preserve the life or health of the mother. What has happened to the Hippocratic oath to do no harm? What does this have to do with improving Maine's Reproductive Privacy Laws? Nothing.

By removing the criminal penalties for performing an abortion without being a licensed clinician and for performing an abortion after viability of the fetus when it was not necessary for the preservation of the life or health of the mother opens the mother to grave risk by allowing unlicensed people to conduct this "business". How does this improve Maine's Reproductive Privacy Laws?

This reproductive privacy bill is a wolf in sheep's clothing.

James Dux,

Searsport, Maine

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