

Kristen Saunders  
Otisfield  
LD 1619

Senator Carney and Representative Moonen, Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, my name is Kristen Saunders and I am a resident of Otisfield. I am here to testify in opposition to LD 1619.

I am a public school teacher of 17 years, and I have had the privilege of teaching hundreds of young children in our state. I have watched students learn and grow to their fullest potential. I have seen them grow up and live out their hopes and dreams as productive citizens in our communities. I strongly believe in the lives of the youth of our state, and that these children are our state's future. As a teacher I have learned the importance of advocating for my students. Many times they do not have anyone to speak up on their behalf, to speak up for what is in their best interest. Now, I am speaking up for our state's youngest children, children at the age of birth. These children deserve their lives to be valued even at birth. If we do not stand up for their life and the potential it could hold, who will.

To have a bill that states an abortion at any time for any reason is extreme, and is cutting off the precious potential these citizens will have for a future in our towns, schools, communities and state.

Please oppose this unnecessary law. It will be one of the most extreme in our whole country, and I do not believe that my fellow Mainers want this bill to pass. Thank you.