Carl Welch Mexico LD 1619

Honorable members of the Judiciary Committee Carl Welch, a resident of Mexico, Oxford County, Maine

Adequate Privacy-After reading the text of LD1619, my faith compels me to submit comment on LD1619. When reading the federal handbook referenced in the legislative document, privacy seems to be adequately covered in the confidentiality text. The patient's identification section explains the sensible rationale to provide some type of identification. HIIPA has been around for over 2 decades and should serve to further protect privacy. The expectation of anonymity is always dangerous. Abortion Policy - We all know that not all sexual relations result in a pregnancy. Pregnancy itself is divinely appointed, so no one should interfere with the course of that pregnancy. Furthermore, we should recognize that the viability of a baby begins at conception! When conceived the baby is immediately viable, and remains so until some other event or factor impacts such viability. In truth, babies are viable before we know the baby exists! Viability is the default state of a baby in the womb and a life that should be protected. Through ultrasonography, I was able to watch my own child about 8 months before I was able to hold her in my arms. She was alive! The mother's health is the only reasonable consideration when abortion is contemplated and is covered in current law. A mother is defined as "a female parent." To be a parent implies one must have children. That child may be in the womb. While I acknowledge some pregnancies are inconvenient, inconvenience does not justify taking the life of a baby! Governments should protect the right to life of a preborn baby. A baby that is the most vulnerable person of our society. We have numerous options for pregnancy prevention. We should do all we can to prevent unwanted pregnancies which will logically save lives by preventing the aborting of more babies. The proposed legislation will promote abortion. Accountability penalties - It curiously seems that woman's healthcare takes a back

seat with the proposed changes. Why would we want to remove criminal penalties for unqualified persons that perform abortions or other medical procedures? Please stop LD1619, thank you!