

Donna Hopkins
Belmont
LD 1619

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and members of the Maine Committee on Judiciary, my name is Donna Hopkins, and I live in the Town of Belmont. I am testifying in opposition to LD 1619, An Act to Improve Maine's Reproductive Privacy Laws. For the record, I am also opposed to LD 776, and LD 1343, but will speak today to LD 1619. This bill is too extreme for Maine.

As a mom, a grandmother, and great-grandmother, I know how very precious the life of every baby is. I am unapologetically pro-life, and pray for the day when abortion is unthinkable to all of us. We often speak of a "safety net", intended to protect the well-being of the most vulnerable among us. Well, there are none more vulnerable than unborn babies, who cannot speak to advocate for themselves. We have to speak for them, and for their right to live.

Maine has long used viability as the standard to determine when an unborn child can no longer be aborted. We are finding that, as medical knowledge and care advance, that point of viability is now earlier in pregnancy than we would have thought possible just a few years ago. This bill, which would allow abortion up to birth, would set Maine apart as one of the most radical, permissive states in the nation for abortion. I don't want that distinction for the state I love. LD 1619 will move Maine in the wrong direction on life. Please vote "Ought Not to Pass". Thank you.