

Written Testimony for LD1619 5/1/2023

My name is Chris Phillips. I live in New Sharon. I've lived in Maine my whole life and I love this state. I'm just an ordinary guy. I went to and graduated from MSAD 9. I went on to get my Associates degree in Building Construction from C.M.T.C. I've been living and working here for 49 years. I'm writing today in opposition to LD1619. I've never done this sort of thing before. I just found out about this bill yesterday and I wish I could testify in person.

I'd like to tell a short story about people that mean a lot to me personally; my sister and brother in law (best friend) and nephew. My sister was pregnant with my nephew and was 26 weeks into her pregnancy when she was diagnosed with toxemia. She was rushed to Portland hospital and had an emergency C section and my nephew was born. They measured his weight in ounces; he was tiny. I remember seeing him in the NICU (which he spent the first 6 months of his life in). He is now 20 years old and doing well. My point with the story is that this isn't a story, it's an actual account of a real people here in Maine. My nephew was just as much a person the morning that my sister was diagnosed with toxemia as he was that night when he was removed via c section. He, as do all others, deserved that right to live.

Members of this committee, you are hearing testimony after testimony today just like this one. There are others standing outside in protest against LD1619. I'm asking you, I'm imploring you, to stop this bill from passing. Each one of you as individuals know that my nephew was a person pre-birth. You all know that a baby inside their mother is a person. I am writing today because I cannot be silent about this bill. I am going to give an account before my creator as to what I did to stand up for those who can't stand for themselves. You as individuals are also going to stand before your creator and give an account for the same thing. You have a responsibility to protect these innocent ones. God creates all human beings in His own image. No one has the "right" to kill these lives.

Chris Phillips
New Sharon
LD 1619

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