

## STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HOUSE REPUBLICAN OFFICE AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

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## Testimony in Opposition to LD 1619 "An Act to Improve Maine's Reproductive Privacy Laws"

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary:

I am Representative Billy Bob Faulkingham and I am here to testify in opposition to LD 1619, "An Act to Improve Maine's Reproductive Privacy Laws".

The Mainers opposed to this bill will be a diverse group. They will be labeled as evangelical prolifers. Many of them will be. But the people opposed to this bill will be both pro-life and prochoice. The people opposed to this bill are the vast majority of Mainers. There are pro-choice representatives in my caucus, and they oppose this bill because it is so extreme. This bill has absolutely no guard rails.

Pro-choice and pro-life groups have long debated on at what point are restrictions necessary. In this bill Planned Parenthood has decided the debate needs to end and that there will be absolutely no restrictions on abortion. This bill allows killing a fully developed healthy baby for no reason. This is inhumane. This bill is so extreme it borders on child sacrifice.

Even if you are naive enough to believe that desperate women would not get a 3rd term abortion of a healthy baby in this pro-abortion culture, you should still set limits on it. Will a Democrat legislator publicly support that position? If not, then why does this bill not prohibit it???

There are no restrictions in this law. This law will make Maine a haven for sadistic abortionists like Kermit Gosnell. Kermit Gosnell is in prison for committing several murders on alive full term healthy babies. Would he even be in prison if he practiced under barbaric laws like this? Actually this isn't a law at all. This is a totally lawless unrestricted abortion bill.

This bill is built on a foundation of lies! Maine already has some of the most permissive abortion laws in the country. Abortion laws that Janet Mills planned to protect and not change when she campaigned for governor 6 months. Maine Law already permitted 3rd trimester abortions for the health of the mother, or in the case of a dead, or fatal diagnosis of the baby. This is an opinion that was confirmed by the Maine Attorney general in the summer of 2022.

Planned Parenthood has revealed itself. You can't convince me that Planned Parenthood did not write this bill. This bill is a reward for their "election success".

In an April 9 Portland Press Herald article Nicole Clegg the acting CEO of Planned Parenthood Northeast proudly stated, "We've been mobilizing for more than a year," Clegg said. "We've reached out to thousands of people, worked with hundreds of candidates. We're not doing anything special to prepare for the (legislative) session, but we've done everything we can to prepare for this moment. We're ready."

That moment is now. She's here to claim her prize.

So I leave every committee member with this question: Do you work for Planned Parenthood, or do you work for the people of Maine?

Vote ONTP on this extreme bill.

Respectfully, Representative Billy Bob Faulkingham