

Melissa Coppa
Plymouth
LD 1343

My name is Melissa Coppa from Plymouth and I write to you today opposing LD1619 as well as LD 776, and LD 1343. I speak to you today on behalf of my child whom I aborted over 21 years ago. My child was wanted and valued by me but not by my partner. It was shortly after 911, the world was one of instability and uncertainty. My partner had all the reasons why it wasn't the right time to have another baby as it would have been our second. After our conversation and seeing the look on his face I knew I would never get to hold my precious baby. I made an appointment to appease him and "conveniently" missed it because it was not what I wanted to do. He was not very happy and told me to make another appointment. In the process of doing so I found out I was too far along in my pregnancy to have an abortion in the state I lived in. This gave me a small glimmer of hope. This hope quickly faded as I found out that the state next door did allow and perform these abortions and so we went and I had the abortion. The regret was instantaneous, and it has traveled with me throughout my entire life. This bill would make it legal for anyone from anywhere to come and have an abortion here in Maine. That means women in my situation at anytime in pregnancy could be forced to come here and forced to have an abortion. The life of the child would end and the life of the mother would forever be changed. Battling abortion regret is real, the sadness, depression, loss, anger, all of the stages of grief are present and compounded by the truth that you yourself took the life of your own child. This is something I will live with for the rest of my life. Please don't help make my reality be that of many others, please choose better for our beautiful state, please choose life for the future children of Maine and of our country, please do what is moral and ethical and vote ought not to pass LD1619, LD776 and LD1343.