

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and honorable members of the Judiciary committee. My name is Stephanie Grondin, I am a lifelong Mainer and I urge you to oppose LD 1619.

This legislation will undoubtedly bring to our state people motivated by a highly lucrative business opportunity. The vague wording in this bill will allow an abortion of a viable baby for any reason which is irresponsible. According to Planned Parenthood's website the average cost of an abortion in the 1st trimester is about \$600 and up to \$2,000 in the 2nd trimester. One can logically assume that an abortion of a fully developed baby in the 3rd trimester would cost substantially more. This website also states that "most in-clinic abortions only take about 5-10 minutes." One doctor in an 8 hour work day could easily perform 50 abortions and make \$50,000 or more each day. This would create a very profitable industry in Maine, but one for which Mainers do not want to be notoriously known.

In addition, the removal of the criminal punishment of an unlicensed person performing an abortion is repugnant and reckless. This only invites trouble by enticing people without proper training to perform dangerous interventions thus putting the health of countless women in grave danger. The removal of punishment is shameful, there must be severe punishments for those who perform potentially dangerous medical procedures without proper medical training and licensure.

Please oppose LD 1619, it is terrible for Maine.