

Isabelle Schmdit  
Bowdoin, Maine  
LD 1614

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

My name is Isabelle Schmidt, from Bowdoin.

I am writing to speak in support of LD 1614, "An Act to Require an Ultrasound and  
Certain Counseling Before an Abortion."

The decision to terminate a life through abortion should always first require a  
thorough examination of the patient, to include the procedure of an ultrasound, since  
this safe and painless method is fundamental to determine the baby's development,  
among other vital information concerning the baby.

If abortion is an option, may it never be the only option. Due to the serious nature of  
curtailing such a life, a pregnant woman ought first to be fully informed by all the  
personal information ascertained by the medical professional during the thorough  
examination. Her view of the ultrasound screen is instrumental to her further  
understanding of the baby's humanity, so ought not be obstructed. Information  
related to pregnancy and parenting in general should also be dispensed, orally and in  
writing.

In addition, where there is no emergency condition in the pregnant patient, it is  
absolutely reasonable to require a minimum period of 48 hours to pass prior to  
beginning the process of an abortion, if decided upon, so as to provide her time to  
process and deliberate over all the new information provided. These steps of basic  
care performed by responsible medical professionals help to protect everyone  
concerned with a pregnancy and may even serve to prevent a baby's death.

Please vote "ought to pass" on LD 1614. Thank you.