

Rob Poissant
Gorham
LD 995

Senator Bailey, Representative Perry and members of the Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee. My name is Rob Poissant from Gorham, ME. I come before you today to speak in Support LD 995.

This bill would require a health insurance carrier to provide costs of a second opinion and any additional testing by any provider of the enrolled choice if the enrollees provider has recommended an abortion. The reason for my seeking support for provision is that a second opinion is essential when a patient is making a significant life changing decision for a major health diagnosis. Abortion is a major health concern. In my role as a volunteer Pastoral Ministry person with a Masters Certificate in Pastoral ministry and in second current course in grief ministry which includes trauma, my experience in helping some minors who have had an abortion is that they are devastated with the decision they made and the lack of assistance by the provider after having an abortion. Those of us who provide guidance and assist them to find help and overcome the devastating harm and hurt they experience, recognize that they would much better be helped if they were provided with a second opinion and any testing which would allow them to make a fully informed decision especially when it comes to their lives and life of an unborn baby.

For these reasons, I ask the committee to vote Ought to pass on LD 995.