

James Waite  
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LD 780

I'm writing in opposition to LD 780, a RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Protect Personal Reproductive Autonomy.

Even after the reversal of Roe V. Wade, our state had a law in place which mirrored the requirements of Roe. Then, you folks in Augusta, despite an overwhelming majority of the Maine people opposing it, changed our law to expand the right to an abortion up to the moment of birth. Now, you want to make it a part of our State Constitution. Shame on you for not listening to the people of Maine or having the moral fortitude to protect the lives of the unborn.

It is a biological fact that life begins at the moment of conception, and for many of us it's also a spiritual fact. Some people believe that life is nothing more than a clump of cells, but none the less it is life that needs to be protected and allowed to thrive.

Personally, I find the practice of abortion to be abhorrent. I believe in individual liberty and I hate the government or anyone else telling me what I can or cannot do. So, I do understand the argument coming from the women who say "my body my choice." However, that argument only protects the right of the mother, what about the rights of the unborn child?

I do understand, and reluctantly accept, the necessity of abortion in cases of rape, incest or the health of the mother. I don't know what the number is in Maine, but nationally rape, incest and the health of the mother only accounts for 5% of all abortions performed. I ask you, where are the other 95% coming from, convenience or an alternative form of birth control? There were 2,225 abortions reported in Maine in 2022, so using the aforementioned national numbers, that would suggest that 2,113 unborn children were terminated for no apparent reason. Instead of focusing so much time, effort and money on protecting the right of a woman to have an abortion, perhaps we should spend some of that on educating the people. Men and women engaged in consensual sex should be using some form of birth control, and they need to understand that if their birth control fails, they are responsible for their unintended pregnancy, that they are responsible for protecting the life they created. What does it say about us as a society, or individuals, if we can't do more in accepting responsibility for our actions and protecting the lives of our unborn children? I don't know what your answer is, but my answer isn't pretty and may God have mercy on our souls.

For these reasons, I urge the committee to vote "Ought Not to Pass" on LD 780.