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LD 780

I am writing in regard to LD780. I provided testimony for LD1619 and I also witnessed the process which ultimately passed LD1619. Due to that involvement I am aware of the deception which underpinned that passage and it is to this point that I wish to provide testimony.

LD1619 was brought forward under the false narrative that a late term abortion due to a fatal fetal diagnosis was prohibited in Maine. The AG published guidance on late term abortion in the July 2022 document, Know Your Rights: Abortion in Maine, which said, "Maine law also provides exceptions to the viability restriction to save the life or health of the pregnant person in the case of a fatal fetal diagnosis." (This document was deleted from the internet but can be seen in a July 27, 2023 Maine Wire article.) A revised AG guidance document dated May 2023 (revised DURING the LD1619 legislative process) deleted that entire sentence. Hence the deception underpinning the passage of LD1619.

Abortion is arguably the most contentious topic in modern America. Extreme lobby dominates the abortion question, be it advocacy for zero weeks or abortion up to delivery. Maine's prior law was a relative compromise, however it has now legislated extreme ideology. (One might counter by saying that the new law requires a physician's determination that the abortion "is necessary" but any reasonable person can see that by replacing the specific prior language, "...to save the life or health of the pregnant person in the case of a fatal fetal diagnosis" with this vague language was a ruse for the ultimate aim of having unrestricted abortion access in Maine.) Sadly our law is based on deception.

This committee now has an opportunity to truncate the spread of the abortion deception by voting Oight Not Pass on LD780. I urge you to consider these points and vote Ought Not Pass.

Thank you.

Nancy Mahoney, Camden