

Jeanne Marquis  
China  
LD 1154

In Opposition to LD1154

An Act to Require That Informed Consent for Abortion Include Information on Perinatal Hospice

Dear Committee Chairs Carney and Kuhn and the honorable members of the Judiciary Committee:

I am Jeanne Marquis from China, Maine, and I am urging this esteemed committee to vote NO on LD1154. This bill is positioned to do more harm than good to women's healthcare. Under the guise of "Informed consent," they are requiring the doctor to read a statement about prenatal hospice. This is a tactic from the anti-abortion groups to psychologically manipulate a woman from her decision – a decision she had to make often after receiving gut-wrenching medical news.

This bill requires a health care professional, as part of ensuring informed consent for an abortion of a pregnant woman whose fetus has received a diagnosis of a lethal fetal anomaly, to inform the woman of perinatal hospice services and provide the woman with a list of available perinatal hospice services providers. If the woman declines receiving perinatal hospice services and elects to proceed with the abortion, the woman must certify that decision in writing and that the woman received the list of perinatal hospice services providers.

This bill is part of a series of nuisance bills put in front of you today that are not based on science or modern women's healthcare. Instead, these bills are intended to take options away from women in order to control them and put barriers in front of their families from advancing ahead.

To many families, decisions to have an abortion is a heartbreaking, devastating time. If the option chosen is an abortion, this should be left up to the woman and her doctor to decide, not up to the legislation or extremists.

I urge you to please vote NO on LD1154. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanne Marquis  
China, Maine