

MAINE RIGHT TO LIFE

LD 1197, HP0757 An Act to Prevent Coerced Abortion

Support

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and members of the Judiciary Committee My name is Karen Vachon I am the Executive Director of Maine Right To Life, in Auburn, and a resident of Scarborough I come before you today to speak in Support LD 1197

Maine Right to Life is a state affiliate of the National Right To Life Committee We are a non-profit organization founded to protect and uphold the dignity and worth of every human life from conception to natural death by making abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia socially, ethically, and legally unacceptable and to actively promote positive alternatives

We are Pro-Life, Pro-Active, and Pro-Women Our members share a belief that women were created uniquely to fulfill a very important role in mankind Women have a womb They bring new life into the world They are to be honored, respected, and protected The word, "reproductive" means to produce an offspring

Thank Representative Amy Arata for sponsoring this bill Studies have shown that 64% of women report being pressured to have an abortion Other research reported that 45% of men interviewed at an abortion facility admitted they urged their partners to have an abortion A Norway study looking at post-abortive women found that "the strongest predictor of [post-abortion] emotional distress was "pressure from the male partner " The study concludes that coerced women, in the two years following their abortion, are the group most likely to suffer post-abortion trauma ¹

Women have been sold by the Pro-Abortion industry that abortion is liberating, empowering, and freeing Nothing could be further from the truth There are countless stories of women who were coerced into having an abortion They suffer in silence The pro-abortion lobby buries studies of post-abortive women who suffer great remorse

When women finally have the courage to grieve and heal from the trauma of their own abortion, we hear their stories Members of this committee may discount this as anecdotal I believe there is a correlation to young teen's high rate of depression, suicide, drug overdose deaths, and homicides committed against pregnant women

I think it's time to connect the dots and protect and support women Women deserve better and Maine deserves better Please vote ought-to-pass on this legislation Thank you

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¹<https://www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/2023/04/research-shows-women-are-coerced-into-abortion-and-this-leads-to-emotional-trauma-2/>