

MAINE RIGHT TO LIFE

LD 1614 An Act to Require an Ultrasound and Certain Counseling Before an 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 1614

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

Who, among us here, has ever received devastating news? Our first response, is often not our best response Time to think, learn, and see is so critical Learning that you are unexpectedly pregnant can be shocking and traumatic for women Women need support and good council, rather than a rapid response Because the decision they are being asked to make is not just their decision, and that of their doctor – NO! There's another life that is impacted here It is the life of the unborn baby Voiceless and innocent, this baby has its own DNA, not his or her mother's Therefore the decision will have a devastating impact – for, at the very least, it will kill one person

For this reason, the unexpectant mother being forced to make this decision, should be encouraged and supported to make a decision with a knowledge of fact and truth Any medical condition has an expectation that a doctor and a medical facility will

- Inform a patient of the procedure and the risks – abortion should be no different
- Inform a patient that there are alternative treatments – abortion should be no different Adoption and parenting are good alternatives!
- Inform patients of supportive community resources – abortion should be no different
- Provide a patient with an ultrasound so they can see what is going on inside their body
- Give a patient at least 48 hours to think and make an informed decision
- Have the patient acknowledge in writing that they support the decision

Women are resilient, intelligent, courageous, flexible, and adapt well Just look at their body! Uniquely designed to bring new life into the world, they deserve to know the truth, and be celebrated and supported The truth be told without the awesome power of women, none of us would be here This bill exposes the truth to women Please vote ought to pass Thank you

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