## LD 1619 Hearing Speak Up For Life

Senator Carney and Representative Moonen, Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, my name is Joshua Peter Wilhelmi and I am a resident of Porter Maine. I am here to testify in opposition to LD 1619.

I believe that it is morally wrong to take an innocent life that has no ability to speak for themselves. So I am here today to speak up for the babies in the bellies of mothers that this bill would allow to be terminated. I am here today to speak up for a generation yet to be conceived. The thought of destroying a human life at any stage of development saddens me, and the thought of killing a baby that is ready to come into the world and experience the wonders of life horrifies me. I am the stepfather of a young man with special needs and was born prematurely at 34 ½ weeks. He is a blessing and an inspiration to my life. God forbid his mother would have given up on him.

I believe that LD 1619 is extreme and that current abortion laws in Maine already allow for any medical contingencies. So for all practical purposes this bill is unnecessary and wrong for Maine.

I would want people to come to Maine to see the natural beauty of the beaches, lakes and mountains, the historic lighthouses, forts and villages. Not to come here to abort an innocent life that has the potential to love, laugh and to live. So I would urge you to vote against LD 1619 and the other bills proposed with it.

Thank you for your time and for the opportunity to speak at this hearing.