

Senator Carney and Representative Moonen, Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, my name is Mary Rose Pray and I am a resident of Brunswick. I am here to testify in opposition to LD 1619.

“If it hadn’t been legal, I never would have done it,” a neighbor told me years ago. Since then, I have heard many post-abortive women share their grief and regret.

“People told me that having this baby would change my life,” is something else I have heard over the years. “What they didn’t tell me is that it would be for the better.”

Maine people are known to help each other in their times of need. When my sister learned her baby would be born with Trisomy 18, she and her husband were offered an abortion. They chose newborn hospice instead and were able to spend 6 weeks with my precious niece here on this earth. Her picture hangs on their living room wall with those of her brothers.

As you know, medical necessity is currently covered by Maine law.

If LD 1619 becomes law, Maine would have one of the most extreme abortion laws in the country.

Mainers can do better than that, they want to do better than that. Please listen to their voices.

Mary Rose Pray, Brunswick

May 1, 2023