

Sen. Carney, Rep. Moonen, members of the Judiciary Committee, I'm Carroll Conley of the Christian Civic League, and I thank you for the opportunity to speak in opposition to LD 1619. Our mission statement is *bringing a Biblical perspective to public policy*. The controversy of abortion reveals the conflict of two competing narratives. First: we are here by chance and chaos with life having no transcending purpose or meaning – – human life's value is subjective and determined by other humans based upon wholeness, convenience, or desirability. The second narrative – – God created everything including human beings who bear His image. Upon creation, we fell in sin and rebellion, but God deemed every image bearer worthy of redemption by sending His Son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins who was raised to life to offer forgiveness and salvation. Therefore, every human being, regardless of the color of skin, origin of birth, sex, age, size of bank account, or number of chromosomes is worthy of our respect, love, and defense.

The League's Pastors' Advisory board represents every major evangelical denomination in Maine: our state's Bible believing churches. The Maine Council of Churches does not represent our churches and their people. The denominations represented on our Pastors Advisory Board include, but are not limited to Assemblies of God, American Baptist, Independent Pentecostal, Advent, Christians, Independent Baptist, the Vineyard, Episcopal, United Pentecostal, Conservative Baptist, Evangelical Free, Reformed Baptist, Orthodox Presbyterian, Church of God, Southern Baptist, Wesleyan, and nondenominational churches. I urge you to vote not to pass for LD 1619.