Dear Senator Carney and Representative Moonen, Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, my name is Jean Hall and I am a resident of Buxton. I am here to testify in opposition to LD 1619.

As a lifelong resident of Maine, I am frequently reminded of the beauty from its natural surroundings to the genuine people who value life, work hard, care for their families and their neighbors.

As a child I was drawn to nursing and meeting people from every walk of life. I graduated in 1974 from the University with a BS degree in Nursing. For the next 44 years I came to know the precious gift of nursing and respecting all life.

I'll never forget the first student who sought out Planned Parenthood and came to my office in tears 3 days after her baby was aborted. Despite the promises on the flier there was no counseling. She didn't have an ultrasound, the parent was not informed nor was there a waiting period. Her phone call two years later is engraved in my memory! She and her baby remain in my prayers along with the now 64 million babies aborted in the US since Roe v Wade in 1973. Yes there were more grieving mothers to follow. No one from the abortion industry ever talks about any physical, emotional or long term effects of losing a baby.

Maine is the oldest state in the country, with a median age of 45. We are one of only four states that has more deaths per year than births. And we abort more than 5 unborn babies EVERY DAY.\* This impacts both our present and future life here in Maine.

My tax dollars are paying Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers to destroy a human unborn baby and do untold harm to the mother. LD 1619 would legally allow a baby that could survive outside the womb to be killed.

I stand before you as a nurse, a wife, a mother and grandmother with many flaws. I have learned lessons of life the hard way but I have always believed each and everyone of us can make a positive difference. Each day we can strive to bring goodness to this world. I ask each of you to think of the possibilities when life is respected. When we come together to help overcome the challenges of an unexpected pregnancy. The gift of a baby awaits a mother and the father to learn how to build a life of love.

Sincerely,

Jean Hall Buxton, Maine 04093