

LD 1619 Hearing
Maine State House
May 1, 202

Senator Carney and Representative Moonan, Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, My name is Melissa Winslow, I'm a resident of New Gloucester and I'm here to testify in opposition to LD 1619.

I oppose this bill in all its measures.

Of **particular surprise** to me is the removal of the penalty in this bill for a non-licensed person performing abortions.

We regularly use the language of keeping abortions safe and legal. Are we now done with these ideologies?

In 2019 Governor Mills signed a bill claiming to improve access to "critical reproductive healthcare for women across Maine," allowing physician assistants and advanced practice registered nurses to perform abortions in addition to physicians.

She said, "Allowing qualified and licensed medical professionals to perform abortions will ensure that Maine women, especially those in rural areas, are able to access critical reproductive health care services when and where they need them from qualified providers they know and trust." (Maine.gov "Governor Mills signs legislation to Increase Access to Critical Reproductive Health Care for women")

Are we no longer concerned that Maine women have qualified providers they can trust providing delicate health services?

Why remove the penalties and risk Maine women being subjected to unqualified health care?

Why are we removing protection for Maine women by removing the penalty for non-licensed people performing abortions.

This is not a safe bill for Maine women. I urge you to vote "No." Thank you.