

Senator Carney and Representative Moonen, Honorable members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary:

My name is Rupert Fancy and I am a resident of Presque Isle. I am here to testify in opposition to LD1619.

As a father of three, two of them adopted because of the courage of two young birth mothers, I am asking you to consider the gravity of a bill that would allow the taking of a life at any time for any reason. To consider one full term infant a source of joy and celebration and another full-term healthy child as a life easily erased is incomprehensible to me.

Each one of us in this room would defend a newborn child with our lives, how can we possibly not protect a fully formed, healthy child days from birth. The very core of the American conscience is our legacy of defending the innocent and helpless around the world.

As a pastor I have celebrated, with excited parents, thousands of births. I have watched courageous young parents fight for the lives of their newborns. I have seen children, born with challenges, become celebrated for their courage and joy they have brought to churches and communities. I have also wept with courageous moms and dads as we buried a child who lived only a few days.

As representatives of a state where 65% of the people who elected you are fully against this bill, you have a solemn choice ahead of you.

I speak for myself and them asking you to vote Ought Not To Pass on LD1619.

Thank you!