

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

My name is Tonya Kassa, and I'm a resident of Gorham. I'm here to testify in opposition to LD 1619.

I'm very concerned about bill LD 1619 which is being introduced in Maine and would allow for abortion up until birth, regardless of whether the mother's health is in danger or not. We already have that law in the books and this bill removes the provision that the mother's health must be in danger.

I want you all to think about what abortion up until birth means. We are no longer talking about rape or incest because you would have known you were violated 8 months before and had time to abort. We are no longer talking about a clump of cells. We are talking about a baby that could be viable outside the mother's womb!

Most of you have children; think about the first time you held your baby. This bill is enabling someone to legally end that baby's life 10 minutes before the moment you hold them in your arms. This would entail great violence and no longer just a D&C; the abortionist would have to kill the baby because at that stage, they are viable outside the womb. Once the baby can be viable outside the womb, this is no longer an issue of women's rights, this is an issue of human rights!

For all of you hearing this, you must understand if this passes, people of the future will be horrified at the ghoulishness of our culture. They will want to know where you stood on this. At that time, you can say "I supported this bill" which is your right. You can say "I turned a blind eye to this bill" and be thought of just like the Germans in WWII. However, you can't say, "I didn't know". If you vote for this bill, this crime against humanity will rest on your shoulders and your name forever.

Please vote ought not to pass.