

Honorable members of the joint committee on Judiciary,

My name is Pamela Cates and I live in Cutler. I am a parent of 3 children and 18 grandchildren. I am testifying in opposition of LD 1619, the bill advancing late term abortions.

My daughter had a miscarriage at 12 weeks. It happened at her home, in her bathroom. I was with her during this experience and when it was over we held this tiny baby...about 1 1/2 - 2 inches....It was sad and amazing at the same time. amazing because this baby had arms, legs, fingers, toes a head everything a normal baby at that age would have. Sad because this baby died from complications with the cord that was connected to his mother. sad because we never got to meet this perfect little baby. I cannot imagine allowing a doctor to perform an abortion for a baby bigger or older than this 12-week baby. It was a traumatic event to lose this baby at 12 weeks and I cannot imagine making a decision to abort a full grown baby. I cannot believe anyone could think this is ok. This bill is so extreme! An abortion at ANY time for ANY reason is too extreme! Please oppose this drastic bill that so many Mainers do NOT want to see pass.

Thank you.