

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

My name is Scott Terry, a resident of the Town of Scarborough. And I'm here to testify in opposition to LD1619.

I want to share from my heart what I think all Mainers believe, which is that it is wrong to intentionally kill an innocent human being. And, what I think, not all, but most Mainers believe, which is that abortion is the intentional killing of an innocent human being. And therefore abortion is wrong.

But, as the exigencies of life become more complex, and human interactions become increasingly complicated, elected representatives, like yourselves, must make difficult decisions. Decisions like legalizing abortion, which most consider a harm, in order to represent others who consider abortion a way of avoiding a harm.

As a result, Maine's current laws which legalize abortion position us alongside other states with the most liberal laws on abortion. The already existing standard being up to the point of the baby's viability. LD1619 would move that standard to the very same minute in which that baby's first cry would be heard. That is by any objective measure, an extreme standard.

Your job is to enact legislation that brings about an intended and preferred outcome for the people of Maine. What is the preferred outcome of such a law? Is it your intention to reduce the population of the state of Maine? Surely not. Is it your intention to increase the median age of the population of the good old state of Maine? Surely not. Is it your intention to amend the slogan of the state of Maine to say, "Maine, the way death should be?" Surely not. And yet, those are the logical, expected outcomes of this bill LD1619.

We want more Maine people, more Maine babies, more life in the state of Maine. Please act in opposition to LD1619. Thank you for hearing me.