

Senator Carney and Representative Moonen, Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, my name is Kelly Weston and I am a resident of Corinth, Maine. I am here to testify in opposition to LD 1619.

Life is a precious gift. I am a mother of five and I can say with experience that raising children is hard. It is messy. It is exhausting at times. But it is a wonderful blessing. I lay my head on my pillow at night and I will admit, there are nights where I feel like I blew it--I didn't say the right thing, I didn't respond the right way. But one thing I don't feel at night is guilt.

This word keeps coming to mind when I think about LD 1619 and the consequences of abortion. I realize that some circumstances resulting in an unwanted pregnancy make it extremely difficult to follow through with the pregnancy. But I can tell you, there will never be guilt associated with giving that helpless, voiceless child in your womb life. I implore you if you find yourself in this situation to reach out to your area pregnancy resource center. I implore you to reach out to an adoption agency where there are families waiting and desiring a child with all their hearts. Abortion does not have to be the answer and I beg our senators and representatives to stand up and help those citizens that feel like they have no other options to realize that they DO. You will never experience guilt by allowing life. Thank you.