

Emmeline Beal
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Testimony of Emmeline Beal
Against LD 1619 –
An Act to Improve Maine's Reproductive Privacy Laws

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

My name is Emmeline Beal, and I live in Cherryfield. I am thankful for this opportunity to share my views with you today and am testifying in opposition to LD 1619, *An Act to Improve Maine's Reproductive Privacy Laws*. I would submit to you, however, that it does not matter so much what I think or what any other human being thinks as what God states as eternal truth in His Word. I believe that we have just cause to be concerned with His view of abortion and every other matter, for according to the Bible, He is our Creator and the omniscient Judge before whom we will stand.

The Biblical case for the sanctity of life starts in Genesis 1: "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them." [Genesis 1:27] Human life is valuable because God made us in His image so that we can have a relationship with Him and show others a glimpse of what He is like. Each of us has intrinsic, immeasurable worth, regardless of social status, background, skin tone, gender, or stage of development.

Thousands of years before the invention of ultrasound technology, King David realized that God saw and orchestrated the entire process of human development. He wrote in Psalm 139, "Thou hast covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well. My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them." [Psalm 139:13b-16]

A child in the womb is indeed a human child and, as such, should be protected and respected as much as any other member of society. As the Declaration of Independence says, each of us is "endowed by [our] Creator with certain unalienable Rights," the foremost of which is the right to life.

For women who find themselves in crisis pregnancies, there are individuals, churches, and pregnancy resource centers that are ready and willing to help. The solution to a difficult situation is not to end the life of an innocent baby; rather, Jesus offers hope and redemption to all who will accept them. He said in Matthew 11, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." [Matthew 11:28] Therefore, I urge you to oppose LD 1619. Thank you for your time.