

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

My name is Peter Forbes, and I am a resident of Presque Isle. I am here to testify in opposition to LD 1619 "An Act to Improve Maine's Reproductive Privacy Laws".

I specifically object to Section 2 that changes the standard for when an abortion can be performed after viability. If the original intent of this section was to allow abortion as an option for a mother who learns she is carrying a baby with a ^{fatal fetal diagnosis} lethal anomaly, it is far too broad and vague. A licensed physician should have better and clearer guidance from the people of Maine and our representative legislature than "use your professional judgement".

This change goes way too far and does not represent the views of most Mainers. It does not represent the views of most states in our country. It certainly does not represent the views of those who have yet to be born.

Please vote 'ought NOT to pass'.

I worked for more than 30 years as an environmental professional in Maine. A major responsibility of my work was to ensure regulatory compliance. One thing I hated to see was vaguely ^{written} ~~stopping~~ regulations. ~~I don't think~~ like this one. I request you honor those who wrote the original restrictions and ~~draft~~ keep them. They're fine.

I also don't think you help ^{yourself as the regulator} ~~the matter~~ by removing penalties for non-compliance. You've failed to make your intentions clear, and you have no way to control the outcome. You need to ~~provide clear language~~ ~~about what you want to see~~ clarify your intention that ~~that ensures~~ abortion after viability is seriously difficult to obtain, considering the magnitude of the decision.