

Testimony to the Committee on Judiciary 05/01/23

RE: L.D. 1343, H.P.0857; and L.D. 1619, H.P. 1044

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

My name is Charles Bougie, Life Director of the Maine State Council Knights of Columbus. I live in Windham. On behalf of the approximately 7,000 members of the State of Maine Knights of Columbus, I am here to strongly oppose the passage of L.D. 1343, and the companion bill, L.D. 1619.

I survived 9. Everyone here has survived 9. 9 months in the womb. I am here to represent the voice of the voiceless in a plea for you to allow them to survive 9 unscathed. The voices are babies that if allowed to grow, as science deems it so, use pronouns he, she, someone. They are a person, a human, with a soul, who rely on others for care and our constitutional rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness like we all did.

When a moral issue and civic law intersect there is a fuzzy distinction of what's what, church or state but in both cases taking of a life is wrong. It cannot be legislated as a right.

Consider this. People who are staunch abortion supporters will have to examine deeply what their inner voice is saying. They will be the most difficult to change their perspective. Those who are on the fence might say I personally don't believe in abortion but if someone wants to have one it's their choice. Now, replace the word abortion with slavery. I don't personally believe in slavery but if someone wants to own slave it's their choice....I don't think so. Over the years we have made some corrective moral inroads. Thank God.

Please as you consider this proposal to kill innocent people, listen to your inner voice in your quiet place, the voice of your own conception and existence, the voice of your soul and conscience. Is this a humane outcome? Examine whether your decision is driven by political gain and you are afraid to go against the grain, or if you truly believe this is in the best interest of all your constituents and humanity. Your decision will determine your legacy. I leave you with these words, what does a society profit if they gain the world but lose their soul.

This Bill ought not to pass.

Respectfully,

Charles Bougie  
Knights of Columbus  
Maine State Council - Life Director