

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

I am not one to normally get involved with politics. I have never attended a public hearing before to make my voice known. I am not a mother. However, I am a woman who cares deeply about the direction Maine is heading with this proposal to expand the current abortion law up to nine months full term. I can not wrap my head around terminating the life of a baby that has reached the point of viability outside the womb. That is a practice for barbarians. It is not a practice for the Maine way of life. The fetus has a right to life. The only difference I see in a spontaneous premature birth, where the medical community moves heaven and earth to save the newborn, and in the late term abortion of a baby who would be prematurely removed from its mother's body is that one child is wanted and the other is not. I am a nurse. I understand that this is a highly charged emotional issue. But for the sake of these children, we cannot be led by emotion. We need to follow the medical science we have today. After the point of viability, how can we, as a society in good conscience deny the science that shows us that these fetuses are indeed viable human beings. To abort them at this point is indeed murder in the first degree. We in Maine can do better and it starts with leading by example and saying NO to late term abortions.