

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

My name is Michaela Gladu, and I'm a resident of Orrington. I'm here to testify in opposition to LD 1619.

This bill is a direct assault on the sanctity of life and draws dangerous parallels to an operation conducted in 1939 under Hitler known as Operation T-4.

First, I would like to share with you that I have been in the chair of an abortion clinic out of fear and selfishness. It wasn't until I was shown the love of Christ Jesus when it was revealed to me that a mother's love for her child starts while her baby is still in her womb. But the abounding and endless love of Jesus Christ and the understanding that a mother's love to her unborn is selfless even to her own demise was found too late for me. It is the most painful emotional and physical experience to have your baby pulled by suction from your womb. A human that was unique to exist once and never again. Not a day goes by that I do not regret that life altering decision I made out of selfishness and fear.

The Nazi physicians performed what we know of these "mercy killings", as Hitler called them, on newborns. When I draw the parallel from this bill to Hitler's Operation I want to recognise the only difference is the location of the baby. This bill proposes the killing of an infant before they even draw their first breath. Hitler's Nazi physicians used two methods almost identical to what physicians would be allowed to do in this bill. The first method being the use of a lethal chemical cocktail injected into the infant causing a heart attack. How are late term abortions conducted? By use of a lethal injection which includes the drug digoxin, the same drug used in state executions. The second method Hitler's physicians would use is the starvation method. Simply starving the infant to death. The physicians in this bill would use the pill Mifepristone which prevents the baby from growing, essentially starving them to death, and the mother gives birth to a dead baby. Again, the difference between Hitler's Nazi physician operations and what this bill would allow is the mere location of the baby. How is it that the location of a baby is what deems their life worthy or not to live even if it is just for a few precious moments?

This is a step in a very dangerous direction for human rights, deciding who lives and who dies based on their size, medical condition, or location. These were the very same variables the Nazi physicians based their operation on as well.

I'd like to close by saying love is selfless. Perfect love casts out all fear (1 John 4:18). Please vote no on bill LD 1619 and stand on the right side of history with me.