

Monday, May 1, 2023

Ought NOT to pass — LD 1619 —

Good afternoon Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and distinguished members of this committee.

My name is Suz Kasprzak of Newport. I had the privilege to serve in the 118th - 120th legislatures.

Today, I am speaking in opposition of LD 1619 mis-titled, “An Act to Improve Maine’s Reproductive Privacy Laws”.

Title 22 Subsection 2841 reads: “a certificate of death of a fetus 20 or more weeks of gestation that occurs in this state must be filed with the State Registrar of Vital Statistics or the clerk of the municipality where the delivery occurred within 14 days after delivery and prior to removal of the fetus from the state.”

So ladies and gentlemen, I have questions that I believe deserve your attention:

- First, What is to become of these late-term aborted babies’ little bodies?
- Will a death certificate be provided?
- Are they to be tossed in a heap? Left to die, cold, alone, crying, seeking their mother’s breast as other newborns do?
- Are they to be flushed down a toilet as so much excrement?
- Are they to be packaged and sold to the highest bidder for their tiny organs and body parts?
- Will they receive proper burials as any other human being who has entered and exited this world?
- And the women—the young girls? What of them? When they have actually seen their tiny, very developed babies, torn apart, or their little

brains suctioned out? Or hear their crying because somehow they have survived the abuse of abortion?

- Who helps them? Will they receive compassionate counsel?
- Who looks after their emotional well-being after experiencing such a tragic event? It can be devastating!

I know of which I speak. As a pregnancy resource director, I have counseled many after the fact. There was a young unmarried couple with not a lot of money who chose abortion because they didn't see any other way out. They went to the abortionist. The procedure did not work and when it failed, they were put into a taxi and sent to the nearest hospital. No one would touch them. (—True compassion!). They landed on our doorstep in Bangor with many questions, deciding it must be that their baby girl was *supposed* to be born. We prepared them with free parenting classes, baby and maternity items, friendship, compassion and even found an OB/GYN in the city who took on their prenatal care. Beautiful, blonde, baby girl born! They got jobs that would allow constant, parental care, were re-united with family who were supportive, and they even caught up with me in a store a few years later and introduced me again to their beautiful preschool daughter and expressed their joy at having given her birth!

Second—why are Maine legislators considering going back to so-called “back-alley” abortions? I thought Planned Parenthood’s mantra was “safe, rare, and legal”?

- Why is the penalty removed, so that someone besides a physician can perform such a serious procedure on a woman?
- Again, where is the “safety” for reproductive choice?

I would encourage members of this committee to soberly consider these when voting on this ungodly bill and vote Ought Not To Pass!

Thank you.

I would be happy to entertain your questions.