

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, Honorable Members of the joint standing Committee on Judiciary, I am here to testify in opposition to LD 1619. My name is Jody Raio and I reside at 19 Ivanhoe Drive in Topsham.

I find it embarrassing that I and so many Mainers have had to make a trip to the State House to defend the greatest gift of all- Life. The word of God says we are fearfully and wonderfully made. It says we are made in God's image. That means every person that God created reflects Him as a perfect Creator. But today I am before a legislative body that I fear may be far removed from this basic truth. So I am here to defend the most innocent and vulnerable in our society. The big question is how did we get to this point? The word of God says the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. So it is the lack of fear for God Almighty that leads down this slippery slope until a people has come into agreement with the murder of a viable child. This is the most gruesome bill I have ever read. I question is this how Maine will be known throughout the nation and world? On the other hand, this bill has unified pro-life and pro-choice proponents more than any other bill. Personally, I know not one pro-choice supporter who agrees with the killing of a child in the third trimester. In my research there is not one case in which this would be necessary at saving the mother. In fact, a C-section is how situations involving harm to the mother has been handled up until now. What I do know is that the organs of these precious babies is incredibly valuable. There is much literature on this available to the public. I pray that everyone who is considering supporting such legislation would turn away from such evil and stand with the children which are our future and joy. I pray that fear of God come upon this State House. In Jesus Christ name I pray.

Please vote ought not to pass.