

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary: My name is Helen Hebert, and I'm a resident of Madawaska, Maine. I'm here to testify in opposition to LD 1619. I am a parent of five children and nine grandchildren. I have one daughter that is a Midwife at Cary Medical Center in Caribou, Maine. My family understands the value of life. We lost a granddaughter to Leukemia at 5 months and four days of age. Every day of life counts and we are thankful for the memories that will last us a lifetime. Her 5 months and four days brought more joy to our family than I could ever put into words to you today.

Again, I am testifying today in Opposition of LD 1619. This is the most EXTREME bill on abortion. Abortion is taking a life of a baby that has no voice. As a young woman I had two miscarriages that were devastating to me and my husband. These pregnancies represented life in the womb, not just tissue. I was heartbroken as I saw parts of my baby that were already formed. Their little hands and eyes were like webs as I was in my first trimester.

Human life is precious and I believe that God himself is the only one that should determine the outcome of every life conceived. This bill would make Maine one of the most extreme states allowing abortions to this degree. I stand here before you on behalf of these babies that have no voice.

Most Mainers don't want to see this bill pass. Please vote it ought not to pass.

Thank you.