

Senator Anne Carney, Representative Matt Moonen, and members of the State Judiciary Committee:

I'm Kristen Day, mother of three, and a taxpayer from Windham. I am here today to oppose LD1619.

My husband and I were born and raised in Maine, we moved away for a few years, and returned to Maine when our first born was an infant to raise our family. We've lived in the same home in Windham for 20 years. Maine, then, WAS the way life should be. I was a life-long voting Liberal Democrat until recent years; I don't even recognize the state of Maine today. It has become a petri dish of progressive social experimentation, and voters don't even know half of what is happening because the media hides it.

This bill *is* a political, cultural, and legal extreme – Morally, legalizing abortion up until the day of birth is legalizing murder no matter how definitions are interpreted. But what women should be concerned with is that removing the requirement that an abortion be done by a physician is *degrading* women's reproductive care. With no legal requirement, it opens the door for anyone to perform abortions; it could someone with an online certification, or less. What if there is an emergency? With this bill, women would lose their right to being assured that a medical physician is providing their procedure, and if it goes wrong, possibly much more. While Abortion providers would gain cost savings by not using physicians, and protection from liability if it goes wrong. Laws should protect women at their most vulnerable, and this bill misleads and exploits them, *and* puts them in danger.

This life and death issue should not be political or partisan; but it is. When Roe v Wade was overturned, before the last election, Democrats claimed that Republicans would take women's rights, make abortion illegal in Maine. Republicans said they wouldn't do that. Now after elections, Republicans didn't bring a bill to outlaw abortion. But *Democrats* are bringing *this* bill to maximize the Maine abortion law -which they, too, said they wouldn't touch. Now, voters are fighting for their "rights" -not to abortion at all -but to abortion at any time for any reason. That escalated extremely.

As for the lawfulness of abortion, we can argue the timeline of viability of a fetus's life, and the moral point of ending a human life at all, but there is no gray moral area here. Legalizing ending the life of a full-grown, baby-about-to-be-born is barbaric. It is NOT the way LIFE should be. As Maine goes, so goes the nation. I urge you to vote NO on LD1619 to protect women's health care standards, to protect the lives of viable unborn babies, and to slow the moral hemorrhage that threatens Maine.

Thank you.