

An Act to Improve Maine's Reproductive Privacy Laws

LD 1619 Position: Oppose

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, members of Maine's Judiciary Committee and fellow Citizens of Maine: My name is Martin Sheehan of South Portland. I am not a politician, am not enrolled in any political party and have been retired for 13 years. I would like to make a few points in opposition to this deceptively named proposal.

Abortion has been one of the hottest political issues since I was in Junior High. One thing I've always noticed about this issue is that the people who want Abortion expanded — available everywhere, to anyone at any time of a pregnancy — rarely say the word "Abortion." It's sanitized as "Privacy," "Choice," "Healthcare," "Women's Rights," "Bodily Autonomy," or "Reproductive Freedom." But it's not reproductive. It's counter-productive. It's destructive. It's the opposite of Health Care.

People who are opposed to Abortion do say the word when the issue is discussed. It's an ugly word. It should be an ugly word because it ends a human life.

It's no surprise that people promoting Abortion don't want to talk about what it really is. They don't want others to talk about it either.

I believe that a more honest and descriptive title for LD1619 would be:

"An Act to Promote and Provide Abortions for Any Woman, Any Time During a Pregnancy, with No Limitations or Questions Whatsoever."

I urge the Committee to vote NO on this bill, and work towards the goal of President Clinton: and make Abortion ***"Safe, Legal... and Rare."***

Thank you