

Fellow Mainers,

My name is Joshua Chalkley and I am here on behalf of the unborn. I oppose bill LD1619 and I request that you vote against it. Abortion is immoral because it unjustly deprives a human being its existence and future. In my own story, I narrowly escaped abortion. My birthmother was advised by doctors, friends, and family to get rid of me when I was in the womb. I know that she must have suffered from anxiety, insecurity, and depression to bear me into this world, but she still decided to give life. I stand in front of you as someone who was given the right to life and I will continue to stand up for others who are defenseless. They have no voice, yet there are those who are intent on silencing them altogether. Why are you so concentrated on silencing a baby? We are their voice, and we stand up for the unborn at all stages. I personally believe that life begins at conception. In the womb is a helpless, innocent baby, whose story has just begun. The Bible tells us in Psalm 139:13-16 that: "For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them." Each of us has been created for a purpose by God and each of us should be allowed the right to Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness. In conclusion, I appeal again that you will vote against bill LD1619. As your constituent and fellow Mainer I hope and pray that you will choose the right decision. Thank you for your time.