Good day Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee, My name is Peter Mullaney. I'm a resident of Falmouth. I'm here in opposition to LD 780.

Please vote ought not to pass regarding LD 780. Amending the Maine State Constitution is unnecessary and expensive because this state has already passed a number of laws protecting abortion even after viability. By the 24th week the unborn baby has all organs including the heart in place, has detectable brain waves and can frown, hiccup and grasp things in hand as well as distinguish mother's voice from others and 60 to 70 percent can survive outside their mother's womb. Let's preserve the unborn child's right to life and autonomy, give them the opportunity to experience life.

In the abortion procedure the unborn baby experiences excruciating pain while being dismembered and eventually dies. People would be upset and outraged if this were done to a kitten or a puppy. To amend the constitution and "create" the "right" for all time, to kill innocent, unborn children in the womb is disturbing and is not the right thing to do. Save lives, don't extinguish them.

Abortion should be last on the list of options. Women with unplanned pregnancies should be treated with respect and encouraged to keep their babies, even if it means putting the child up for adoption. Putting our time, effort, and resources into fine-tuning the adoption process ought to be our priority not enshrining abortion into the Maine Constitution. In 2023 we the people in Maine in record numbers voiced our opposition to LD 1619 and we oppose LD 780 in 2024.

The current legislature in passing LD 1619 last year and proposing LD 780 this year seems bound and determined to assert the power that goes along with the majority that currently exists. Saving the lives of voiceless, innocent, unborn babies or representing other voters in their districts seems not to be a consideration.

Ladies and gentlemen, this is serious business, lives are at stake here. Please vote ought not to pass.

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