

Testimony Opposing LD 780
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American Academy of Medical Ethics
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Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary:

My name is Dr. Charlotte Paolini. I am a physician in family medicine and geriatrics. My residence is in Biddeford, ME. I am here to testify in opposition of LD 780.

I got my start in life in my mother's womb as did everyone else in this room, I dare say! I was born to poor and uneducated parents. Nevertheless, my parents loved me and nurtured me. It was my mother who planted the seed in my young and eager 14-year-old mind to become a physician. I have no idea what she saw in me to encourage me to pursue a career in medicine, but she did and I am the better for it. And what about each of us in this room? What hopes and dreams and aspirations did our parents have for us and plant within us? Would any have thought or dreamed that their son or daughter would be a state legislator, sitting in a legislative hall deliberating on how to make it less cumbersome to kill preborn babies in their mother's womb? .

Please, listen to these comments by John Stonestreet, president of the Colson Center:

"Ultimately, the pro-life argument remains unchanged. The preborn are innocent human beings, made in God's image, and no one should be able to take their lives without cause. In fact, the most basic purpose of government is to protect its citizens' right to life, and if the government fails to do this, it is failing in the most basic way. Simply put, if killing babies in the womb is not wrong, the very concept of RIGHTS is a joke."

The passing of such a radical resolution as LD 780, would enshrine a right to end the lives of preborn babies right up until birth. I find this selfish, irresponsible, shortsighted, and dangerous for the well-being of our state and, ultimately, our country. Therefore, I implore you to vote: "Ought not to pass" on LD 780.

Thank you for your kind time and consideration.