



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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*Testimony of Representative Anne Graham presenting*  
**LD 94, An Act to Eliminate Miscarriage Reporting Requirements**  
*Before the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services*

Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer and honorable members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, as you know, I am Representative Anne Graham, proudly representing the towns of North Yarmouth and part of Gray in the Maine House. I am here today to present **LD 94, An Act to Eliminate Miscarriage Reporting Requirements**, on behalf of the Maine Hospital Association, Maine Medical Association, Northern Light Health and MaineHealth.

LD 94 seeks to remove a requirement that providers report to the Department of Health and Human Services a miscarriage of a fetus less than 20 weeks gestation.

Miscarriages, defined in Maine law as occurring before 20 weeks, often occur outside of a medical setting and do not require medical intervention, so this information is underreported and inaccurate. If there is a medical encounter, however, the Maine Health Data Organization would have the claims data. Additionally, for miscarriages or still births after 20 weeks, a fetal death certificate is required.

I have attached the reporting form providers are asked to use by the Maine Center for Disease Control & Prevention. Providers feel that the nature of a miscarriage (does not occur all at once, often happens without the involvement of a health care provider, may occur prior to knowledge of pregnancy) makes it difficult to provide some of the information required on the form, such as the place where delivery occurred, date of delivery, facility name, etc. Additionally, the form refers to the "Attending Health Care Professional," which is misleading, as most miscarriages occur without a healthcare provider in attendance. Lastly, disposition is not always known or in one location as miscarriages often occur over a period of time and are not quantifiable.

Providers are concerned about not meeting these reporting requirements for miscarriage and this is impacting their ability to practice medicine and deliver comprehensive reproductive care for the patients that they serve. With that said, I hope you will join me in supporting LD 94 and eliminate this requirement.

Thank you and I would be happy to answer any questions that you may have.