Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and members of the Maine Legislature Judiciary Committee.

My name is Stacey Modrusan, and I am a resident of Hermon. I am here to testify in support of:

LD 253 – An Act to Prevent the MaineCare Program from Covering Abortion Services

LD 682 – An Act to Amend Certain Laws Regarding Abortions

LD 886 – An Act to Regulate Medication Abortions

Health Care Provider LD 887 – An Act to Make Manufacturers Responsible for Proper Disposal of Abortion Drugs and Require a to Be Physically Present During a Chemical Abortion

LD 1007 – An Act to Update the State's Informed Consent Laws Regarding Drug-Induced Abortion

LD 1154 - An Act to Require That Informed Consent for Abortion Include Information on Perinatal Hospice

I am a mother of 4 children. I also worked as a Sonographer, aka Ultrasound Technologist, for 19 years. This included 6 years in Maternal Fetal Medicine, which is for those experiencing a higher risk pregnancy.

Over the many years in my professional role, I have encountered many different heartbreaking situations. Many of these situations also included moments of great joy. I have witnessed many mothers and couples who have regretted a previous abortion or changed their mind during their pregnancy and were beyond grateful that they chose life for their child.

I've also been part of discovering many different genetic conditions and anomalies. I've talked at great length with families experiencing these situations, during various stages of their pregnancies, and after the birth of their children. I've seen many who were initially upset, and over time they realized that their child was a gift regardless. I've seen those who cherished the brief time they had with their child, whether it be only during pregnancy, a few moments after birth, a couple days, weeks, months. They all mourned the loss of their child. They all knew their child was an individual person. I wish that all parents had the chance to have these conversations with me or others in the field.

I believe abortion at any time is murder. Everyone deserves to live the life they were given by God. We have no right to end the life of any child.

We also have the duty to inform everyone expecting a baby of all their options, not rush them to abortion as the only option, or what some call the best option. This is not true; life is always the best option.

We need to have better regulations on the distribution of chemical abortion pills. It is scary that these are being promoted as an easy non-surgical option by those who are not licensed in any way. Why are licensed physicians not required for something so toxic and deadly? Chemical abortions may not be a surgical procedure, but it is still a big deal, murder always is, and there can be many different complications and may affect the mother's health. With so many different complications how can we allow these women not to be under the care of a physician? What happens when something goes terribly wrong? What happens when parents change their mind shortly after taking the pills? They all need to be informed beforehand and after that there is the option of abortion pill reversal medication. It is only right that all are offered this. Please remember one of your biggest mistakes, wouldn't you want a way to rectify that if possible?

Those who believe in the sanctity of life should also not be forced to fund others' abortions. It is unacceptable that Mainecare is paying for and supporting any type of abortion. Let's instead focus on supporting mothers during their pregnancies, provide them services that really help them now and in the future as their child grows up. Let's make sure parents understand all their options, what exactly happens when the go ahead with an abortion, what complications physically and mentally they may encounter and have to deal with the rest of their lives.

I would like Maine's extreme abortion stance to cease. I truly believe that we need to go back before LD1619 of early 2024. I will be here speaking about anything that helps us even a little bit to become a better place for all, including the most vulnerable. One step at a time, but we need to keep working toward protecting all. Everyone has a right to life. God is the only one who should have a say as he is the one that created each and every one of us.

acza, Miten Thank you.

Stacey Modrusan Hermon, Maine