

Jonathan Gamble
Maine Right to Life
LD 811

Senator Claxton, Representative Neter, and distinguished members of the Health and Human Services Committee My name is Jonathan Gamble and I am the Augusta Chapter Coordinator of Maine Right To Life. I come before you today in opposition to LD 811 An Act to Protect the Reproductive Rights and Freedoms of Maine People.

Maine Right to Life is a state affiliate of the National Right To Life Committee. We are a non-profit organization founded to protect and uphold the dignity and worth of every human life from conception to natural death by making abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia socially, ethically, and legally unacceptable and to actively promote positive alternatives.

We are Pro-Life, Pro-Active, and Pro-Women . Our members share a belief that women were created uniquely to fulfill a very important role in mankind. Women have a womb. They bring new life into the world. They are to be honored, respected, and protected. The word, "reproductive" means to produce an offspring.

This bill is a concept draft with no language, brought forward at the last minute – having a public hearing and immediately going into a work session a half hour later. The people of Maine should be appalled. This is the people's house – where the people have a voice. How can you have a public hearing on a bill with no language? And then to schedule a work session immediately after? I've served on this committee. The only valid reason to do this is to kill this bill and get it off the table. To do anything other would be truly deceptive.

If this is more than end of session housekeeping – read on: The people deserve truth. This is about abortion. Abortion is NOT "reproductive healthcare". Abortion not only destroys a young, speechless, unborn life. It also harms women, physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually. The abortion industry wants women to believe that having an abortion gives them freedom and empowerment. That is not true.

Here's what is true, and is fact in Maine. Our beautiful state is dying. We are the oldest state in the country with a median age of 45. We are one of four states that has more death/year than births. We abort 5.6 unborn babies per day in Maine. Our beautiful state goes to great lengths to fund and protect the viability of the Atlantic fisheries, the Piping Plovers, and the nesting falcons – to name just a few. We tout the importance of protecting our ocean, woodlands, waterways and wildlife. When are we going to protect the unborn – which is Maine's future? When are we going to uphold women for who they are and what they can bring to Maine. It's time to promote a culture of human life here in Maine. Then, we can proudly say: Maine the Way Life Should Be. Please kill this bill today. It is killing Maine. Vote No.