

March 28, 2025

ME LD1154 An Act to Require That Informed Consent for Abortion Include Information on Perinatal Hospice.

My name is Jessica Wade and I am a resident of Milford, ME. I am writing today to **OPPOSE** LD 1154.

I might be inclined to support this—almost. The problem is that this bill isn't about providing helpful information; it's about coercion. Women facing the devastating news that their pregnancy is not viable are already suffering. When a woman chooses to terminate a pregnancy to spare her fetus from pain and suffering, the last thing she needs is a state-mandated guilt trip.

Requiring a woman to receive a lecture and sign off on it assumes that her doctor hasn't already provided all available options and that she is incapable of making an informed decision. If a woman and her medical provider determine that termination is the best course of action, it is nothing short of cruelty for politicians to interfere, forcing additional suffering under the guise of "informed consent." Why do lawmakers believe they know better than doctors? Why do they insist on imposing unnecessary pain?

It is exhausting and absurd that, in 2025, women still have to fight for the ability to make their own healthcare decisions. The fact that I can write one letter and have it apply to multiple hearings on the same day without revision speaks volumes about the relentless attacks on reproductive rights. While I've added some thoughts and edited a few lines, the core concept remains unchanged and is as follows:

It is deeply hypocritical for representatives to introduce bills that interfere with the relationship between patients and their medical professionals. Neither patients nor doctors need or want this kind of political intrusion. This interference directly contradicts the principles these same politicians claim to uphold—smaller government and individual decision-making.

Restricting access to healthcare benefits no one. We have already seen the harmful consequences in states that have enacted similar laws. Abortion services are basic healthcare, and the women who have lost their lives due to these restrictions would undoubtedly agree—if they were still here to do so.

The data on how these laws harm women is readily available. Yet, the lawmakers pushing such bills seem uninterested in facts, raising the question: Do they truly care about the well-being of their communities?

You cannot claim to be "pro-life" while simultaneously blocking access to life-saving procedures and essential healthcare. You cannot claim to support women and children while crafting legislation that endangers them—even to the point of death.

Why do you believe you belong in the exam room, standing between doctors and patients? Medical professionals should make medical decisions without arbitrary political interference. People should be able to make healthcare choices for themselves and their families.

What others do with their bodies is none of your business. And let's not forget—without women, there are no children. If you truly care about life, start by respecting the rights and health of the women who bring it into the world.

For the sake of everyone, stop trying to create criminality where none exists.