

Testimony in support

LD 825: An Act To Ensure Equality in Women's Health Care Access in Maine By Requiring Facilities Providing Abortions To Inform Patients Of Options And Alternatives

May 18, 2021

Senator Carney, Representative Harnett, and distinguished members of the Judiciary Committee. My name is Karen Vachon and I am the Executive Director of Maine Right To Life, located in Auburn. We support LD 825: An Act To Ensure Equality in Women's Health Care Access in Maine By Requiring Facilities Providing Abortions To Inform Patients Of Options And Alternatives.

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.

Who among us, hasn't had a change of heart, and/or a desire to change their mind? Nobody wants to feel trapped, with no way out of a decision – especially one that could impact one's emotional well-being for the rest of their life. Chemical abortions are [on the rise in Maine](#), and [across the US](#), accounting for more than 50% of all abortions. Easy access to abortion, in the form of a pill, could possibly cause rash decisions; later causing regret. Knowing your options provides hope.

Knowledge is power – to be informed and to know your options, puts a person more at ease, which aids in making a thoughtful and informed decision. [Thirteen states](#) have enacted laws requiring information about medical abortion reversal. The informed consent law requires abortion facilities to inform a woman prior to, or soon after, taking the first drug in a two-step process of a chemical abortion, that it may be possible to reverse the effects of the abortion. The first step of a chemical abortion involves taking a drug called "Mifepristone," followed by a drug called "Misoprostol." It is possible to reverse the abortion prior to taking the second drug, however, it is important to tell the woman that time is of the essence-- action must be taken usually within 24 hours of taking the first drug.

Passage of this bill could potentially save a child's life, while bringing restored hope to expectant women experiencing a change of mind and heart. I humbly ask this committee to pass LD 825. Women's health and well-being will be better for it. Thank you.

Hon. Karen Vachon
Executive Director
www.mainerighttolife.com
karen@mainerighttolife.com