

February 23, 2026

Re: Testimony Opposing HB 1590 (House Judiciary Committee)

Chair and Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

My name is Elizabeth Marvin-Smith, and I live in Fremont, New Hampshire. I am submitting this written testimony as a private citizen, representing only myself, to respectfully urge you to vote Inexpedient to Legislate on HB 1590.

I am in my first trimester of pregnancy, and my family and I are thrilled. Like many expectant parents, I am doing everything I can to support a healthy pregnancy. At the same time, I know from loved ones' experiences—and from my own conversations with my clinicians—that pregnancies can take unexpected and heartbreaking turns. Complications are sometimes discovered later in pregnancy, and some diagnoses reveal that a fetus will not survive or that continuing a pregnancy would seriously endanger the pregnant patient's health.

If the scenario I fear were to happen to me, I would want the ability to make the best medical decision for myself and my family, in consultation with my doctors, here at home in New Hampshire. HB 1590 would further restrict access to abortion later in pregnancy and substitute rigid, one-size-fits-all limits for case-specific medical judgment. These decisions are time-sensitive and deeply personal. They belong with patients and clinicians who understand the medical facts—not with politicians, deadlines, or arbitrary cutoffs.

I recognize that people of good faith hold different personal views about pregnancy and parenting. HB 1590, however, would narrow the options available to every Granite Stater, including those facing severe complications they never anticipated. Our laws should make room for families to navigate rare and complex medical situations with dignity and appropriate medical guidance, rather than impose blanket rules that cannot account for the realities of late-emerging diagnoses.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask the Committee to vote Inexpedient to Legislate on HB 1590 and to protect access to timely, compassionate medical care for New Hampshire families.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to our state.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Marvin-Smith
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