SENATE AMENDMENT “A” to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “A” to H.P. 1044, L.D. 1619, “An Act to Improve Maine's Reproductive Privacy Laws”

Amend the amendment by striking out the first instructional paragraph (page 1, lines 11 to 16 in amendment) and inserting the following:

'Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §1598, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2019, c. 262, §4, is further amended to read:

1. Policy. It is the public policy of the State that the State not restrict a woman's exercise of her private decision to terminate a pregnancy before viability except as provided in section 1597-A. After viability an abortion may be performed only when it is necessary to preserve the life or health of the mother or after the diagnosis of a fatal fetal abnormality by 2 physicians licensed pursuant to Title 32, chapter 36 or 48 who are not in the same practice. It is also the public policy of the State that all abortions may be performed only by a health care professional, as defined in section 1596, subsection 1, paragraph C.'

Amend the amendment by striking out all of section 3 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §1598, sub-§2, ¶A-1 is enacted to read:

A-1. "Fatal fetal abnormality" means a fetal condition that will result in a high likelihood of death of the fetus within 30 days after birth.'

Amend the amendment by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the provision of Committee Amendment "A" authorizing an abortion after viability when necessary in the professional judgment of a physician with a provision authorizing an abortion after viability when necessary to preserve the life or
health of the mother or after the diagnosis of a fatal fetal abnormality by 2 physicians who are not in the same practice. The amendment defines "fatal fetal abnormality."

SPONSORED BY: ___________________________________

(Senator BRAKEY, E.)

COUNTY: Androscoggin

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