

May 1, 2024

The Honorable Wayne MacDonald, Chairman  
House Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
33 North State Street, Room 210-211  
Concord, NH 03301

**RE: Testimony in Opposition to SB 461**

Dear Chairman MacDonald and Members of the House Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs Committee:

My name is Danielle Albushies, I am a NH resident, a practicing ob/gyn in New Hampshire and I would like to express my strong opposition to SB 461 **as amended by the Senate**. For clarity, I, alongside countless physicians, and the New Hampshire Medical Society, strongly supported the as-introduced version of SB 461 as it originally sought to strike the following confusing provision in the fetal life protection act – "nothing in the fetal life protection act shall be construed as creating a right to abortion." As abortion-care is currently accessible through the 24<sup>th</sup> week in New Hampshire, such a provision unnecessarily causes confusion among patients.

In a post-*Roe* world, legislative proposals that seek to report sensitive abortion-care health information, including a pregnant patient's state of residence and the method used to perform an abortion, information that we know has been dangerously weaponized around the country against patients and providers, to government entities justly causes providers and patients great concern. When presented the opportunity this legislative session, the Senate voted down efforts to enact shield law protections in New Hampshire, protections that surrounding New England states swiftly enacted following the fall of *Roe*. Just last week, Maine's Governor signed a bill into law to protect their state's providers of abortion-care from actions by other states.

For these reasons, I urge the House Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs Committee to recommend Inexpedient to Legislate on SB 461 as amended by the Senate, or amend the bill back to its as-introduced version which garnered a great deal of support in the Senate. Thank you for your time and consideration of my testimony. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,  
Danielle Albushies, MD