

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

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Legislative Document

No. 1930

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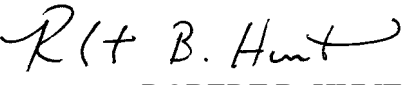
H.P. 1291

House of Representatives, May 6, 2025

### **An Act Regarding Acts of Violence Committed Against a Pregnant Woman**

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Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

  
ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative PAUL of Winterport.  
Cosponsored by Senator CYRWAY of Kennebec and  
Representatives: BISHOP of Bucksport, COLLINS of Sidney, GRIFFIN of Levant, SMITH of  
Palermo, WHITE of Ellsworth, Senator: HAGGAN of Penobscot.

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

**Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §214** is enacted to read:

## **§214. Unborn children**

**1. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.**

A. "Conception" means the fusion of a human spermatozoon with a human ovum.

B. "Gestation" means the time during which a pregnant person carries an unborn child in the pregnant person's womb, from conception to birth.

C. "Unborn child" means the offspring of human beings from conception until birth.

2. For purposes of sections 201 to 203 and 207 to 208-F, the term "person" or "human being" includes an unborn child at every stage of gestation from conception until live birth.

**3. This section does not apply to:**

A. An act committed by the mother of an unborn child;

B. A lawful medical procedure performed by a physician or other licensed medical professional at the request of a mother of an unborn child or the mother's legal guardian;  
or

C. The lawful dispensation or administration of lawfully prescribed medication.

## SUMMARY

This bill provides that for certain provisions of the Maine Criminal Code, including those governing murder, manslaughter and assault, the term "person" or "human being" includes an unborn child. Exceptions are included for an act committed by the mother of an unborn child, a lawful medical procedure performed by a physician or other licensed medical professional at the request of a mother of an unborn child or the mother's legal guardian or the lawful dispensation or administration of lawfully prescribed medication.