



**DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER**  
*Secretariat for Administration*

January 16, 2014

The Honorable James MacKay, Chair  
House Health, Human Services & Elderly Affairs Committee  
107 North Main Street – Room 205  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

**Re: HB 1502 (Induced Termination of Pregnancy Statistics)**

Dear Representative MacKay and Members of the House Health, Human Services & Elderly Affairs Committee:

As Director of the Office of Public Policy of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Manchester, and on behalf of Bishop Peter Libasci, I write to support **HB 1502**.

Currently, the State of New Hampshire does not collect statistics about abortions performed here. Of particular concern, there is no information available about the number of women who have had multiple abortions, which can lead to subsequent pre-term deliveries and low birth-weight babies. Pre-term deliveries and low birth-weight babies are leading causes of infant mortality, and something we, as a society, should seek to reduce. With data, programs aimed at reducing infant mortality would have the information needed to apply resources appropriately.

We urge you to stand up for the dignity of every human life and recommend **HB 1502** as ought to pass. Thank you for your consideration of our testimony and your service to the people of New Hampshire.

Sincerely,

Meredith P. Cook, Esq.  
Director, Office of Public Policy