

COVER SHEET

131st Maine State Legislature

Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs

LD: 394

Title: Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 117: Rule Regarding the Duties of School Counselors and School Social Workers, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education

Testimony Submitted By:

Name:

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Topic:

Chapman, Cheryl

From: Shawn McBreaity <shawnmcb@maine.rr.com>
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2023 11:34 AM
To: EDU
Cc: Sampson, Heidi; Alvin Lui; Allen Sarvinas
Subject: LD394 - Chapter 117 - Why is this even headed to a work session? 87% of testimony rejects it

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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This message originates from outside the Maine Legislature.

Please forward to all Educational Committee Members:

Maine Educational Committee Members,

It is confusing after being there live to try and understand why LD394 is even going to committee work session in the first place? Chapter 117 is already in play in Maine schools and it is horrific. There is no version of this that helps anyone, but those willing to divide the student, from the parent. Those wishing to sexualize our youth, at their own perversions, with our tax dollars.

I had the pleasure of testifying in front of you on Thursday, April 6th, 2023 on LD394, better known as Chapter 117. The video of my appearance can be seen here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BYMorzJbFQs&t=47s>

My written testimony, along with specific examples of the American School Counselors Association (ASCA) and National Association of Social Workers (NASW), each of which here in Maine says in their own words, that they want to keep secrets from parents and that sexualizing minors is their desire, can be found below. Tara Kierstead from Hall-Dale Middle School and Christopher McLaughlin from the Hermon School Board are the "leaders" in Maine:

<https://legislature.maine.gov/legis/bills/getTestimonyDoc.asp?id=10016981>

I worked on reviewing all of the 78 pieces of written testimony on LD394 yesterday and found that an overwhelming **87% of respondents wish this committee to reject LD394. Ought Not To Pass.**

Chapter 117 is already in play in Maine and children's and parent's lives are being conflicted by it daily. We've reported on several of these already and you heard from an impassioned mother, Amber Lavigne who continues to stand strong in the face of government resistance and she provided you her lawsuit against AOS93 in Damariscotta, ME. This tragic situation is because a school social worker sexually transitioned her daughter...in secret. Exactly what Chapter 117 is all about. Exactly what Ms. Kierstead and Mr. McLaughlin are pushing. Schools are emboldened by this policy, already in action. They are grooming minor children.

Ms. Lavigne and her lawyer were on Fox News' Jesse Watters last night, not a good look for Maine education, but par for the course, as Maine has been in the national and global spotlight, as the "California of the East Coast educationally."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FVrsu2w3K-s>

Here are some of the impactful pieces of overwhelming testimony against LD394 that if you have not had time to review, below is just a summary of why *regardless of your political affiliation*, you need to realize how bad things are in the very schools you are tasked to oversee:

- As a woman who suffered from body and gender dysmorphia as a young teen, at a time when the only option was watchful waiting and therapy, I can say without a doubt that myself and my family are grateful that schools, teachers and therapists **did not pit us against each other.**
- *Parental rights are sacred* and in adjusting the existing avenues for abuse controls and protections to include transgender issues, this is destroying the family unit as well as creating illegal channels of control of children.
- **This is the only mental disorder we allow and encourage people they are correct.** Do we talk with an anorexia or bulimic person and say yes you are correct you are fat, you should stop eating? No we encourage them to get help.
- Separating their growth from their parents, and **labeling parents as abusers for not conforming to pronoun use a glaring.** It is nothing short of torture inside a mind and soul to those who are most pure. I vehemently oppose LD 394 and will never submit my child into any school system that plans to implement such misdeeds. **The school system will crumble under such obviously ridiculous and abhorrent law.**
- We as parents, **have to give written permission to allow our children to receive Tylenol** or any medical care while in school, yet this bill will allow teachers, social workers, admins, etc. to grant permission to OUR children for puberty blockers, chest binders and hormones?!?
- **As a member of the LGB community** I know first hand how dangerous this is to all students and their families. Studies show that students that don't have parental involvement have higher suicidal rates. This is even more dangerous to students that identify from the LGBTQ community who already have higher suicidal rates, drug use and victimization. **Parental involvement is 100% needed and counselors and psychiatrist need to find ways to involve parents so we can start lowering the devastating impact on all students.**
- **Simply put the government has moved into an ownership relationship with the children.** They have determined that parents do not understand their children and rather than work with the parents keep vital information from the parents.
- After discussion with my child, it was revealed that a school social worker provided this, and a second binder to her sometime in October. It is also important to note that this social worker never reached out to introduce himself to me as a person who would be working with my child in any capacity, nor did the school inform me of this supposed care. **He told my child he would not share this information with me, her mother,** nor did she have to do so. This resulted in my child spending months hiding binders and keeping secrets from her family, causing her distress.
- This bill supports and protects public employees in building emotional/trusting relationships with minors and keeping secrets from their parents- **this is the definition of SEXUAL GROOMING.** This bill exploits and takes advantage of innocent children for a radical ideology while weaponizing the government against parents who disagree.
- **This infiltration of sexuality and gender into the school system and social work departments is creating inner turmoil in children** by forcing those too young to make moral decisions which will affect their entire life. Most recently it has been shown that some social workers, teachers and counselors, have been **rewarding those that are reading pornographic literature and choosing alternative gender assignments or sexual roles.**
- We have seen too many cases, right here in Maine, of school employees overstepping their authority and the trust the public has placed in them by encouraging students to create secret alternate identities to be used at school. Sometimes, they have even pushed children onto the path of gender transitioning, which can include chemical interventions with harmful life-long consequences, such as infertility, osteoporosis, and depression. **These people should be locked up by the legal system, not protected by it.**
- Some of the members on this committee are parents and or grandparents. **Do you honestly believe school counselors and administrative staff should be encouraged to have your kids keep secrets from you?**

This data can be reviewed here, should anyone think I made any of this up and anyone can do exactly what I did:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1x_VW2CgN1wJRsyYxvrn_YyGuPo_6QCmKc3fw9pkdI/edit?usp=sharing

I am urging a brave member of this committee to make a motion to kill this bill before anymore taxpayer money is wasted on LD394, Chapter 117 and reject it. Because it is intended to divide the student, from the parent. Any of you who think that Maine schools are benefiting our Maine youth, you are beyond misinformed. This is not a bill that can be "wordsmithed" into somehow being fixed. This committee should denounce the bill and lay down the law that you will not accept what happened to Ms. Lavigne and push for clear, criminal and civil penalties for anyone doing so.

Ps - Are you aware that only 24% of Maine students can do math at proficiency and only 29% of Maine students can read at proficiency? This is what you should be hammering for questions to every MDOE, MSMA, MLA, MPA, etc. member every

time they go to the mic. **We are failing an entire generation of Maine children.** Never in our history have scores been lower and our return on investment worse. This is on you to change, but first you need to recognize there is a major problem, regardless of your political affiliation:

<https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/subject/publications/stt2022/pdf/2023011ME8.pdf>

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Sincerely,

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Maine Source Of Truth
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Sent from my MacBook Pro