Jo Umenhofer Manchester LD 1735

The rendering of the language of this bill is a horrific offense to the establishment of family as well as to what government is defined to be. Government was intended to help the family, not tear it apart through legislation that borders on encouraging kidnapping, all in the name of a cultural issue. LD1735 reads as though the intention is to protect, but instead encourages the destruction of the integrity of family and parental rights. The government, not in any of the Bill of Rights or our National or State Constitutions was meant to hold the powers this bill is attempting to provide it. For the families of Maine and all of New England, I submit this testimony in opposition to LD1735. It is my hope that as legislators of the State, you would read through this blurring of the lines that intends to ruin and diminish the honor, responsibilities, and duties of both the family unit and our governmental structure. If legality is given to the atrocities suggested in this bill, we will have then failed to protect our children and the future generations of the great State of Maine.