Jeremy Mann Hermon, Maine LD 227

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Jeremy Mann. The purpose of this written submission is to oppose proposed bill LD227.

I have lived in this great state for 14 years serving in the education field at the collegiate and high school levels (East Grand School, Hermon Schools, and Easter Maine Community College). I now also serve our community as a pastor at the Rock Church of Greater Bangor.

I love living in Maine. My wife and I have raised our 4 children here. We have taught them to care for our neighbors and pray for our leaders. However, I cannot support this bill.

My opposition is mainly built on two reasons: 1. It takes too much authority away from loving parents. 2. It gives too much authority to people who do not know these children personally or their parents.

During all my years serving in Maine, I have met many loving, responsible parents - who are raising their children to the best of their ability. While I do not always agree with their parenting decisions, I have never doubted their intentions and pursuit of what is best and healthy for their children.

I appeal to you to not take away what has been a foundation of our country - the right of the parent to raise their child in a God-honoring way as they see fit.

Should you have more questions - please call me at 423-715-9453

Sincerely,

JMann