



MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Testimony in Opposition to LD 227 An Act Regarding Health Care in the State

March 5, 2024

Good Afternoon Senator Bailey, Representative Perry and distinguished members of the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services. I am Representative Billy Bob Faulkingham and I represent House District 12. I am here to testify in opposition to LD 227, *"An Act Regarding Health Care in the State"*.

This innocuous bill title still did not have language online as late as today for the public to see. Despite that fact, the amount of people showing up today to testify in opposition should be a wake-up call to the committee that this is a terrible bill.

This is the vilest and most disgusting piece of legislation I have ever seen come before this legislature. I do not doubt that there are compassionate people on the other side of this issue. I do not doubt that some people on the other side have good intentions and a caring heart for people struggling with gender dysphoria.

However, those people are ignoring a plethora of extremely dangerous problems with this bill.

Pump the brakes. We are talking about children getting transgender transition treatment and surgeries. We cannot ignore reality that these treatments and surgeries are irreversible. They have lifelong consequences on these young people's reproductive function as well as their general health.

Children that receive transgender treatments as adolescents can have severe outcomes that affect their future, like losing sexual function, losing the ability to breast feed their children, shortened lifespans and a high suicide rate.

Do not make our state a destination for child trafficking, kidnapping, and sex trafficking. It is arrogant and dangerous for Maine to enact a law that would protect criminals who come to Maine with their victims from the laws of other states.

I urge you to immediately vote **Ought Not To Pass** and kill this bill immediately.

Thank you for your time. I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully,

Billy Bob Faulkingham

Rep. Billy Bob Faulkingham
House Republican Leader