Diane Lambert Money 12 Beech Road South Berwick, ME 03908

Senator Bailey, Representative Perry, and Members of the Health Coverage Insurance and Financial Services Committee,

My name is Diane Lambert Money, and I live and work in South Berwick. I appreciate this committee and Senator Bailey and Representative Perry for considering this important legislation.

I urge you to vote Ought to Pass on LD 227. Both as a social worker and a parent of a transgender adult, I believe it's important to safeguard health care for everyone, including and most especially gender affirming care and reproductive care.

My transgender adult child benefited greatly from gender affirming services and I'm grateful that it was available to them. I saw my child's mood and self esteem improve greatly after these services.

As a therapist who works with transgender people and their families, I know how incredibly important gender affirming care is. The life of the transgender person depends on it. It's also been determined to be medically necessary by the American Medical Association, the American Psychological Association, and the National Association of Social Workers.

As for reproductive care, it needs to be protected in the state of Maine due to the Supreme Court revoking Roe vs Wade, and many states restricting abortions. People seeking services and their providers in the state of Maine need to know they are protected by the law.

I want to thank this committee for reading my testimony. Please pass LD 227. Passing this legislation will ensure that lives will be saved.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Diane Lambert Money

South Berwick