

Martin Bouchard Verow  
Gardiner  
LD 380

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Gardiner, Maine  
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Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee. My name is Martin, I'm a resident of Gardiner, and I am here today in opposition of the bills before the committee today.

This bill would be having a drastically negative impact on my life, and for many others, as access to Gender Affirming Hormone Therapy helps many feel comfortable and happy in our bodies. Life without access to this care more often than not, leads people into depression and even suicide, as many with gender dysphoria feel like their bodies don't match who they want to be, and access to such care can make people achieve such remedies to that depression.

Repealing Maine's Shield Law would subject Maine's already-strained healthcare infrastructure to out-of-state criminal prosecutions for providing standard-of-care health care as legally allowed in this state. Maine state law has allowed doctors and patients to safely give and receive the care they need, and LD 380 would especially cause great harm to health care providers.

If this bill went through, me and many others may go into an unhealthy depression of not being able to be who we truly are, and feel trapped in an oppressive society. Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee. I urge you to vote "Ought not to Pass" on these bills. Thank you!