

Summer Christian
Eliot
LD 380

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Eliot, ME
May 8, 2025

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee. My name is Summer Christian and I am a resident of Eliot, ME.

I am here today in opposition of the bills before the committee today.

My 16 year old child came out to me as transgender when he was 12 years old. His gender dysphoria impacted every aspect of his life and caused immeasurable pain, both physically and mentally. We are so lucky to live in a state where this is taken seriously and there are gender clinics available for parents to access for their children. I feel like gender affirming care including therapy and testosterone treatment saved my child's life. Sadly, it seems like most people don't understand this debilitating situation and what people don't understand, they fear. My child is no one to fear. He is a loving, compassionate, kind and brilliant person who we should all feel so lucky to have in our world.

According to the Trevor Project, anti-transgender laws have caused a 72% increase in suicide attempts. My child could be included in that statistic if his gender affirming healthcare is taken away from him. He is just starting out in life and has so much to offer the world. Please oppose these bills that put these special kids' lives in danger.

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,

Summer Christian