

Testimony of Coralie Giles, RN
President, Maine State Nurses Association
Vice-President, National Nurses United

OPPOSING LD 380, “An Act to Amend Certain Laws Regarding Gender-affirming Health Care Services”

Before the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary
Hearing: May 8, 2025 at 12:00 p.m.

Dear Chair Carney, Chair Kuhn, and distinguished members of the Judiciary Committee,

The Maine State Nurses Association/National Nurses Organizing Committee/National Nurses United (MSNA), representing more than 4,000 registered nurses and health care professionals providing patient care in our state, **urges the Committee to oppose LD 380, which would repeal Public Law 2023, chapter 648, passed in 2024, which protects Maine health care professionals from violence and legal attacks by other states and protects patients’ right to access gender-affirming and reproductive care.**

As nurses, our first and most important responsibility is to our patients — to provide them with safe, therapeutic, and effective health care and treat them with dignity as people. We know that gender-affirming care is health care, and health care is a human right. Gender-affirming care and reproductive care improve patients’ lives and respect patients’ right to control their own bodies. And yet, the health care professionals who provide gender-affirming care and abortion care have been cruelly demonized by politicians and threatened with criminal prosecution and civil actions in many states.¹

We call on Maine legislators to protect health care professionals, trans people, and abortion patients, by rejecting LD 380.

Sincerely,



Coralie (Cokie) Giles, RN
President, Maine State Nurses Association
Vice-President, National Nurses United

¹ See Felix M, Sobel L, & Salganicoff A, *Criminal Penalties for Physicians in State Abortion Bans*, KFF (Mar 4, 2025), <https://www.kff.org/womens-health-policy/issue-brief/criminal-penalties-for-physicians-in-state-abortion-bans/>. Dawson L & Kates J, *Policy Tracker: Youth Access to Gender Affirming Care and State Policy Restrictions*, KFF (last updated Mar 19, 2025), <https://www.kff.org/other/dashboard/gender-affirming-care-policy-tracker/>.