

Karen Wyman
Hallowell
LD 380

Testimony of Karen Wyman
Hallowell, ME
May 8, 2025
Opposing LD 380: An Act to Amend Certain Laws Regarding Gender-affirming
Health Care Services

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee, I am Karen Wyman of Hallowell, and I urge you to oppose LD 380: An Act to Amend Certain Laws Regarding Gender-affirming Health Care Services which would repeal the current process by which a minor consents to gender-affirming hormone therapy and follow-up care, which would result in a prohibition on minors age 16 to 18 receiving gender-affirming care unless the minor child has parent or guardian consent.

Maine's health care is already strained. Repealing Maine's Shield Law would subject Maine's health care infrastructure to out-of-state criminal prosecutions for providing standard-of-care health care as legally allowed in this state. Repeal of this law would create an impossible conundrum for providers: should they risk prosecution for meeting the standard-of-care established by their peers and medical experts, or should they deny patients the care they need? No professional, especially a medical professional, should be put in such a position to risk their livelihood or their integrity.

Maine has competent, skilled doctors whose patients trust them to be reliable partners in their care decisions. We need more of them. Maine state law has allowed doctors and patients to safely give and receive the care they need, and we should continue to do so. LD 380 would especially cause great harm to health care providers and make Maine a less desirable place for health care providers to do their important work. Mainers cannot afford fewer providers.

Thank you for considering my perspective. I strongly urge you to vote no on LD 380. It is an unnecessary and harmful proposal.

Sincerely,
Karen Wyman