

Dominic Polletta  
Sanford  
LD 380

Trans people are sincerely just normal people, who happen to not feel like the gender they were born as. If you were suddenly changed to the opposite gender, I imagine you'd also feel deeply uncomfortable in your skin, desiring to feel at home in your body by the means available to you. Trans people have the same dreams, desires, hopes, fears and struggles that many of us have, on top of a critical lack of understanding. Not accepting them, disagreeing with the fact they have the right to do as they like with their bodies and image, is a choice every person can make, but what is not right is to deny them the legal right to their own bodily autonomy. The moralization of trans healthcare is wrong, it is their decision, along with those who practice medicine, to administer what is deemed medically necessary for their own lives. We allow of all sorts of cosmetic surgeries and procedures like breast implants and penile length surgery without any moralization of the process, but when it comes to trans people suddenly it's imperative that others get to chime in on what should be allowed. This legislation does nothing to protect any of the vulnerable people who suffer on a daily basis, instead choosing to punish trans individuals and health care practitioners through a process that already takes a great deal of difficulty, willpower, medical appointments, and time. As stated in the summary, this legislation only seeks to roll back protections for both those seeking gender affirming care, as well as the health care practitioners who provide that care. Trans people are our friends, family, neighbors, The legislative body should not serve as a weapon striking out at the safeguards of our fellow Mainers, using its power to punish an already all too vulnerable group. Thank you.