LUISA BREEN Brunswick LD 380

Luisa Wolcott-Breen Brunswick, Maine My 8, 2025

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

Thank you for the opportunity to express my thoughts and concerns to the Committee today. My name is Luisa Wolcott-Breen and I am a student at Bowdoin College. I am writing in opposition of LD380: An Act to Amend Certain Laws Regarding Gender-affirming Health Care Services. I am writing because I am hoping to be a teacher in Maine, and I believe students should have control over their own decisions and their bodies. Health care is personal, and people deserve to make their own informed decisions. While I am lucky to come from a supportive and loving family, everyone is not as fortunate to have the support of their relatives. This bill matters because it strips protections from an already vulnerable population by taking away their ability to make decisions about their health. This bill should not pass because transgender children deserve protection in the health care realm and beyond. LD380 proposes to strike the definition of gender affirming hormone therapy as "nonsurgical, medically necessary health care that respects the gender identity of the patient, as experienced and defined by the patient." By changing this language, the bill proposes a disempowering shift in the way we talk about patients in health care settings. Health care ought to center patients, who are the best knowledge holders of their medical and personal needs. By taking out their autonomy through striking the current language requires that patients between 16 and 18 years old need to have their parent's consent to engage in health care decisions that are best for themselves. Thank you again for your time in reading this testimony and once again, I urge you to vote no on LD380. Sincerely,

Luisa Wolcott-Breen