

March Carchild
Auburn
LD 380

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Auburn, Maine
May 8, 2025

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

Thank you for the opportunity to address this chamber today. My name is March Carchild, I am a resident of Auburn, Maine, and I am testifying in opposition to the bill LD 380.

I am transgender and nonbinary. I am, personally, fortunate enough to have family who have supported me throughout my transition, but I know many friends who have not had that luxury. The legislation LD 380 seeks to repeal protects those minors whose parents, against the recommendation all credible medical science in this field, refuse them lifesaving care. Study after study has shown that youths who receive gender-affirming care have vastly improved mental health odds, certain studies showing as high as a 60% reduction in depression and a 73% reduction in suicidality. To deny an opportunity to save so many lives by putting the choice for care in the hands of people who will most likely never know what it is to experience dysphoria is unforgivable. LD 380 will also repeal Maine's Shield Law, opening us up to litigation and putting a burden on our already struggling healthcare system. LD 380 does nothing but harm minors who are seeking the medical care they need, and up until now it has been a point of pride for me that my state could provide that for them. Do not take that away.

What our state needs is to protect transgender lives further, to strengthen our defense against federal and interstate legal overreach, not to further the persecution of my community and remove the last remaining avenues some of us have to obtain healthcare.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. Please, vote against LD 380 passing. If it does, children will die.