



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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May 12, 2023
Testimony
In Opposition to

LD 1735 “An Act to Safeguard Gender-affirming Healthcare”

Good afternoon Senator Carney, Representative Moonen and members of the Judiciary Committee My name is Katrina Smith and I represent District 62, China, Palermo, Somerville, Windsor and Hibberts Gore I am here today to speak against **LD 1735 “An Act to Safeguard Gender-affirming Healthcare”**

LD 1735 is a dangerous and radical bill aimed to steal the future away from children It is an assault on parental rights, a beckoning call for runaways, a push for unlimited opportunities for trafficking and gives blanket approval to the mutilation of children under the guise of gender affirmation

LD 1735 allows the state of Maine to receive children from other states who want to obtain dangerous and harmful transgender treatments without the consent of both parents or even without the consent of any parent If a child arrives in Maine with the purpose of receiving mental or physical gender treatments without a parent that child can become a ward of the state and treatment will be paid for by Maine taxpayers Free access to gender treatment is directly advertising Maine as a haven for traffickers and runaways who are experiencing dysphoria, trauma and confusion I notice the fiscal note only mentions possible civil suits against the state, a huge concern in itself, but don't you think that advertising free surgery to people throughout the country will bring insane financial consequences to the Maine taxpayer?

This bill not only overrides parental consent it clearly states that if one parent brings a child to Maine to receive treatment and the other parent does NOT want their child to receive treatments Maine will *automatically* side with the parent who believes in so called “gender affirming care” Why would we assert the state of Maine in the middle of a family discussion? Why would we side and give haven to one parent when we know nothing about the intentions of either parent A State cannot love a child Only a parent can love a child

The bill *never* defines the word child, and it presents life-altering treatments as the definitive and only cure for struggling youth If you are a parent at what age did you decide you wanted children? Even in your mid-twenties did you know you wanted to have kids yet? This bill will take the fertility from countless children who haven't even had the adult thought of what their future family will look like Castration, vaginoplasty and mastectomies not only remove the possibility of bearing children they completely take

sexual pleasure away for the rest of a person's life when they haven't even experienced what it is What a horrible mistake

Countless people are now seeking a way to restore their physical and mental health by de-transitioning, reversing their medical transitions There are now a myriad of stories being told how surgery to remove penises and breasts, puberty blockers and hormone therapy did not fix the trauma or pain *inside* of the person who received the aforementioned procedures Sadly, de-transitioning will never give them back fertility, pleasure or wholeness and that is a tragedy we should not be expediting for children In a Swedish study it was found that adults who transitioned were 19 times more likely to kill themselves after transitioning and for females it was 40 times'

Finland, Sweden and England have now turned back decades of transitioning services they previously allowed making it required that a child have mental health treatment before any hormones or treatment can commence France, Australia and Norway have banned or limited gender transitions in children

Maine will be on the wrong side of history if we allow this bill to pass and we will most certainly be complicit in the mutilation, death and destruction of countless children and families I beg you to love children and support them, but don't allow this mutilation, this destruction of innocent bodies to prevail on our shores

Thank you