



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Senator Bailey, Representative Perry, and Honorable colleagues,

This bill, LD 227, is so very concerning for me. I would like to begin by sharing testimony from a from a federal law enforcement officer.

*Please notice the last page of my testimony.

The conversations that I had with the aforementioned officer brought to my attention many unintended, as well as intended, consequences this bill could entail. I will speak to one of those.

Many years ago, while working as a camp nurse, I realized the true vulnerability of other peoples' children in my care when several campers approached me with what I believed to be homesickness. The truth was, they had seen me hug my children, who were also campers, goodnight each evening. One girl saw this and flung herself into my arms and said that she just needed a hug, too. This became a small routine for a few campers who would stop by in the evening to tell me about their day. My maternal fears surrounding a part of this bill is that children going to camp from Maine or coming to camp from another state could in all actuality, without their parent's knowledge, choose to receive "legally protected healthcare activity."

Should parents across the country be informed that their child, upon entry to Maine, will have complete access to "legally protected healthcare activity?" After all, this bill states that parents would never have to be informed of their teenage daughter having an IUD inserted in her uterus without their consent or knowledge while in Maine. What if there were complications upon insertion. Would parents have to be notified as this bill considers this "protected" information. Is there any recourse? Has Maine only attracted the most-skilled highly qualified medical professionals? Not

with this bill. It gives protection to those who may have caused harm in other states and offers them coverage. Medical errors are the third leading cause of death after heart disease and cancer. The bill summary states in section 3 that:

It authorizes a person whom a civil, criminal, or administrative action in another state is brought to deter, prevent, sanction, or punish that person for engaging in or for aiding and assisting legally protected healthcare activity, referred to in this amendment as "hostile litigation" to bring a civil action in this State for damages, punitive damages and equitable relief. A court in this State may include in a damage award the amount of any judgement issued in connection with the hostile litigation as well as the person's reasonable attorney's fees and expenses incurred connection with that action.

Parents everywhere, let that sink in. Maine will foot the bill to prevent you from having any awareness or redress for your complaints as to what happens to your child in our State concerning "protected healthcare activity".

Does this committee believe that Maine taxpayers feel that this a good way for their tax dollars to be spent?

This bill is so very dangerous in that it protects everyone but those who would be truly harmed by it. Perhaps before allowing a weekend field trip to Acadia National Park, a week at some of our more exclusive summer camps or any summer camp at all, parents across the country should realize that your rights can be usurped and that Maine can take over the parenting of your child in the most private areas of their lives. Will your child be safe in Maine if you do not have to be told of the harm perpetrated against them? Will any child in Maine be safe if this bill passes?

I ask you to vote down this atrocious bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tracy L. Quint
State Representative