

Esteemed members of this committee,

I stand before you this afternoon, as a father, grandfather, uncle, and pastor, appalled at what LD 227 would do to the individuals it is said to support and to our society as a whole. Children are the most vulnerable section of our society and that is why we make laws to protect them, even from themselves. We mandate seat belts, car seats, air bags, warning labels, etc. etc. We give an age limit for a drivers license and then we make them take a drivers education course. A child cannot legally drink alcohol until he is 21. Why? Because he is not yet deemed responsible to make wise choices. We understand that alcohol will temporarily mar his judgment and harm his body. Yet this bill would allow a child to permanently and irrevocably change his body even though he may decide later in life that this was not a good decision.

Science clearly reveals 1) that life begins at conception. 2) that the sex of each person is unequivocally established when the sperm and the egg come together. Sex is not a matter of how a person feels. We are made male or female by our creator. The only reason there is any confusion about this today is because society has moved from its moral moorings. And we want to do whatever feels good at the moment. Regardless of the consequences.

Another section of this bill that is terrifying is that it ignores anyone else's rules. The laws of other states are considered unimportant and irrelevant.

Another section of this bill would allow a child to be kidnapped from his parent, and brought to Maine and be mutilated without consent. And I did say mutilated. We are appalled at what some cultures and religions allow to happen to their daughters. But this law wants to make it acceptable. Some will say I am overstating the facts. I guarantee I am not.

Over the last few centuries we have fought to free women and children from foot binding, child marriages, and many other cultural ideologies that harm human beings. I believe it is time we do that for our own society.

I urge you to defeat this bill ASAP and spare our society and our children.

Respectfully submitted

Robin L. Green            Pittston, ME