Good afternoon to all members of the HCIF committee. My name is Donna Tiemann. I am a 27-year resident of Ellsworth. I oppose LD 227, in particular, its 21 page amendment.

This 21-page amendment, surreptitiously affixed to LD 227, would legalize the abduction of minors to and within the state of Maine, and would incapacitate any legal means of recovering them.

Throughout human history abduction has been a cause of incalculable suffering. Little, if anything in life can equal the agony of parents whose child has been abducted, regardless of age. Yet, this legislation would impact families in each of the 50 states, since any family could potentially lose a minor child to the state of Maine.

So-called gender-affirming care is language deception for encouraging and enabling sexual confusion, leading to chemical castration, and often, to irreversible surgical castration and mutilation, resulting in permanent physiological damage and ongoing medical issues such as incontinence.

These young people need many things: they need loving parents or guardians, and mental health therapy that is compassionate, competent, timely, consistent and when necessary, ongoing. They also need time to grow and develop mentally, spiritually and physically, with protection from predatory lies, abuse and abduction.

This amendment proposes to legalise evil. Please vote "ought not to pass".