

Marta Laser
Bath

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Against LD 227

An Act Regarding Health Care in the State

Representative Perry and Members of the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services, my name is Marta Laser and I oppose LD 227. I live in Bath. Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee.

I oppose LD 227 for many reasons, but I will stick with this point: that it does not protect our vulnerable youth from making life-altering decisions that could send them into a spiral of despair when they have matured enough to realize what they have done to themselves. I am referencing puberty blockers, gender transition surgeries, cross-sex hormones and transgender surgeries for minors.

True "Health Care" does not seek to cause intentional, irreparable damage to an individual.

Who, among us, from the ages of birth to 18, had emotionally and mentally developed sufficiently to make mature, permanent, life-long decisions? Who wouldn't regret a life-altering procedure that mutilates their sexuality and that would strip them of fertility at a later date? What is the reason for pushing legislation that is so extreme on our youth?

I was a tomboy, was the fastest runner among the boys and loved to play football. I was one of the first to be chosen for a team. In today's scenario, would I be pushed to transition?

At 23 years of age, Keira Bell brought a lawsuit against the National Health Services Gender Identity Development Clinic in London, the Tavistock Clinic. She experienced personal harm from the puberty blockers and testosterone and had an operation to remove her breasts. Her claim was that the medical staff did not do enough to challenge her or help her in her situation.

How sad and tragic! Again, why the rush? Why couldn't she have waited until she was at least 18, or better yet 21! Why damage even one life? Is de-transitioning care protected under LD 227?

What about those who encourage and coerce, without parental knowledge, these young people into making such a life-altering choice? Are they held accountable under LD 227?

This is a very concerning piece of proposed legislation and I believe dangerous for the youth of our state and our country.

Thank you for your time.