

To those on the Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services Committee

Smile at us, pass us; but do not quite forget.
For we are the people of Maine, that have not been heard yet.

It is my opinion, Maine voices that oppose LD 227 “the neglected people.” Just as those who opposed LD 1619 were. They represent the backbone of this State. They are for the most part unorganized and unselfconscious. They are not rich enough to have individual power. They are taken for granted by each political party in turn. They are not sufficiently organized for what in these days we call ‘pressure politics.’”

The real life of the State of Maine is to be found in the homes of people who are nameless and unadvertised.

The elites of our time—in politics, business, education, and the media—tend to be divorced from their roots and disdainful of those classified by them as apparently less virtuous.

You were elected to be Representatives of the people of Maine, not Politicians. Representatives are those who rise above the people by understanding them. Politicians are those that rise above the people by refusing to understand them: by saying that all our dim, strange preferences are prejudices and superstitions. Representatives uplift while Politicians diminish. The Politicians make the people feel stupid, while the Representatives made the people feel wiser than they could have imagined that they were.

But this can have strange consequences. The Representatives who embrace and admire the people are often pelted, insulted and intimidated. The Politicians who despise the people are often praised in the media and crowned.

In our legislature, for instance, there are quite a number of Politicians, but comparatively few Representatives of the people.

LD 227 ought not to pass!

JohnMichael DeBartolo
Hollis Center, Maine

To those on the Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services Committee

My name is JohnMichael DeBartolo and I live in Hollis Center ME. I am a great-grandparent, grandparent, parent, son and sibling. I am testifying today in opposition of Maine LD 227, An Act Regarding Health Care in the State.

It saddened me when I learned of the new bill. LD 227, "An Act Regarding Health Care in the State". I've read it through, all 27 pages, and it is a political document not a health care document. The bill title should be changed to reflect its actual content.

I don't believe that those who will be supporting this bill truly understand the ramifications that this bill will have on Maine citizens for years to come. The title of this bill is as misleading as it is offensive. "Legally Protected Healthcare Activity". Do we need a bill to protect my right to see a doctor for an injury or annual checkups? Do we need a bill to protect my right for gastrointestinal surgery? Do we need a bill to protect my right to have kidney surgery, eye surgery, or back surgery.

This is not a "health-care" bill, it is a political bill attempting to legalize a social issue. It appears to me that this bill is about power and cash. When the opportunity for individuals outside the State of Maine to be protected by this bill, proves that it's primary function is not Health Care in the State of Maine, it is a business opportunity.

LD 227 is not supported by evidence-based proof that so-called "gender affirming" therapy is affirming to the health of gender incongruent youth. Gender-dysphoric youth need to have mental illness, adverse childhood events, and family dysfunctional dealt with, and need the reassurance to embrace their biological sex as their gender identity and to avoid the harmful consequences of "transgender-affirming" interventions. Studies show that the suicide rate of those who had undergone sex-reassignment surgery has risen to 20 times that of comparable peers...because sex change is physically impossible, it frequently does not provide the long-term wholeness and happiness that people seek. (based on Swedish Study)

LD 227 also will make the State of Maine one of the worst places in the country for killing preterm babies.

LD227 if passed, will tear apart families, irrevocably harm children for life, and kill the preborn babies. Including whose mothers travel here from other states. The fact that this is a political issue is supported based on party politics. I've stood in the halls of the Capital building and watched to many issues decided by party politics.

Please do whatever you can to see that LD 227 ought not to pass.

Thank you,
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