

## Testimony of Frank Schutte

### LD227

Senator Bailey, Representative Perry and members of the Committee on Health Coverage and Financial Services.

My name is Frank Schutte and i stand opposed to LD227. I am a resident of Wiscasset. I have 3 adult children and a 17yr old still at home. 2 of my children we adopted from the state of Maine and 1 of my children has high functioning Autism. To say the least our family has seen very difficult times in trying to raise these kids to be healthy and well adjusted. We have lived their struggles with them.

Being people of faith and seeing the complete disregard for our Constitutional rights of freedom of religion that LD227 brings to the table is very concerning.

The most concerning issue that it brings to the table is stripping not only Maine parents of their authority to make the best decisions for their own children, but the rights of parents nation wide. It is gross overreach that kids could be taken from other states without parental permission with the aid of the State of Maine. It is condoning kidnapping.

It is accepted science that humans do not have full capacity to make unemotional decisions vs. factual decisions until well into their twenties. If your 12, 13, 14, year old came home and said she was going to marry her boyfriend now, you would lovingly deny them that request because while understanding that in their mind they truly believe they are in love, you recognise that they are being ruled by their emotions and haven't experienced enough life to make such a profound decision. Yet, this bill gives children the right to make life altering decisions for themselves that science has not even settled what the long term effects will be. The medical community is already seeing a spike in sterilisation and suicide of children that have been put on puberty blockers. 80% of children who suffer from Gender Dysphoria self correct by the time they are 19.

Im sure none of you disagree with the statement "no one knows your kids better than you do", but LD227 says the opposite. Signing onto this bill is agreeing that you believe you know better than Maine parents and all parents nation wide (due to it's overreach) what is best for their children. Therefore you should be aware that by stealing parental rights from your fellow citizens you will need to accept that you bare the responsibility for the terrible consequences that gender transitioning and abortion have on the physical and psychological well being of young people here in Maine and in whatever state this law spills into. Consequences that medicine can't even tell us yet. Are you as law makers truly of the mind set that you know better than all of us what our kids need? I pray not!

Thank you for your time and consideration of my concerns.

