## Testimony of Jon Anderson Against LD 227

## An Act Regarding Health Care in the State

Senator Bailey and Representative Perry, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Affairs, my name is Jon Anderson and I oppose LD 227. I live in Woolwich. Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee.

## I oppose LD 227 because

• LD 227 makes both gender surgery/abortions "legal" rights. Only the state can ensure these rights through taxpayer-funded services and/or forcing insurance carriers to fully fund services. I and many other citizens love mothers, babies and families. We care for and affirm their valuable lives, and cannot agree there's any right to kill a helpless child. Also, children are born perfect and to chop up, sterilize and mutilate them isn't anyone's right. There's no right or wrong way to be a boy or girl, and cementing a minor's "right" with lifelong implications affecting sexual function is no act of justice or kindness. Maine should never embrace this ideology.

 Why make Maine a sanctuary for outsiders wanting to traffic children to obtain gender surgery/abortions? Parents desperate for alternatives to these harms need protection from another parent captured by the current ideologies. While one parent may obtain legal protections in their home state, another can spirit away the child to Maine, where the only

rights respected are those that fit the current political agenda.

 There's no religious exemption for organizations with moral objections to gender surgery/ abortions. Any healthcare organization or pro-life pregnancy center could be punished for prohibiting or disciplining an employee who participates in these.

 The bill also prohibits malpractice insurers from increasing rates for gender surgery/abortions, divorcing risk from rates and skewing costs solely on ideological grounds.

Thank you for your consideration and I respectfully ask you oppose LD 227.