

Nikole Barnes
Fairfield
LD 227

Committee members and legislators,

Thank you for your attention to my testimony. I am writing to oppose LD227. I am asking you not to let this bill pass. It is dangerous. As a mother, who is striving to protect my children daily from threats at every turn, I see how dangerous it is. As someone who used to be a teenager, and who is so grateful that most of the things I wished for then never came to be, I see how dangerous this is. This bill removes a parents right to protect their children. This bill puts "rights" into the hands of kids who think that eating tide pods, or any other popular "challenge" might be fun to try, or worse, it puts vulnerable kids into the hands of those who want to prey on their naivety, their rebellion or their bodies. Please let us help parents do their jobs as parents. We need to be working harder to enable them to protect their children, the children of Maine and the children across our country. We hear accounts all the time of child trafficking, of children and teens who have gotten taken advantage of. Kids and teens can have blind faith in people who don't deserve it, who will hurt them and manipulate them for their own gain. If this bill passes, these things will happen. Please don't advance this dangerous legislation. Please do your part to protect the most vulnerable among us. Thank you again for your time.

Sincerely, Nikole Barnes of Fairfield