

Peter Bragdon
West Gardiner
LD 227

Senator Bailey, Representative Perry and members of the Legislative Health Care, Insurance and Financial Services Committee, My name is Peter A. Bragdon and I reside in West Gardiner Maine. I am addressing this committee with my concerns and strong opposition to LD227, An Act Regarding Health Care in the State of Maine. I am a Registered Nurse having worked over 27 years in this state and an EMS Provider / Firefighter who has as well served multiple communities in our great state for over 40 years. I am first concerned with the basic premise of this bill and the lack of definition and description for the bill's purpose and direction. Having been in healthcare as a nurse and cared for patients of all ages in acute hospital and emergent settings I am first appalled at the inference that children can be involved in receiving medical care and treatment without parental or guardian consent and involvement. This goes against every ethical basis for treating underaged children that I and my medical colleagues have followed for decades. Without appropriate parental consent and involvement that I and the medical providers I have worked with for the last 27+ years have always followed this bill would create extreme concerns morally, legally and ethically. As well, the medical treatments referenced in this bill are so complex and life altering that allowing such to happen without proper consent, involvement of parents and having a support system in place will further place our younger and most vulnerable kids at extreme risk beyond what is obvious and take healthcare backwards in barbaric ways that cause me to have grave concerns. I could expand on my thoughts regarding this bill and with my years of experience in hospital and community healthcare continue to have grave concerns in regards to the great risk that this legislation poses for our children. Thank you for allowing me to voice my concerns against LD227 and I can certainly be contacted to further discuss my thoughts and concerns on this bill, Respectively Submitted;