

March 5th, 2024

Sara Bulkley

Clinton, ME

Testimony regarding LD 227: An Act Regarding Health Care in the State

Senator Bailey, Representative Perry and members of the Legislative Health Care, Insurance and Financial Services Committee, my name is Sara Bulkley and I live in Clinton, Maine. I am submitting testimony online to express my strong opposition to LD 227, An Act Regarding Health Care in the State. It is unconscionable to me, that our elected officials here in Maine would sponsor and support a bill that will severely encroach upon the rights of parents to raise their children and guide them through some of the most traumatic and life-changing decisions that they may face. Abortion services without parental consent and gender affirming care for minors, including hormone therapy and surgical procedures which will forever change their bodies before they have reached maturity is immoral and amounts to child abuse. While some say that these types of treatment are only administered after extensive psychological treatment, a simple search online reveals many de-transitioning stories which testify to the opposite, that minors were encouraged or allowed to undergo treatment with very minimal mental health care. As adults, we all should understand and acknowledge that minors are not qualified to make these kinds of decisions on their own. They simply do not have enough life experience and haven't even grown into their bodies yet to know what it is to be fully feminine or masculine. That is what parents are for and to allow another adult to usurp the role of a parent and go to such extreme as to transport a child across state lines or otherwise enable a minor to undergo medical treatment is immoral and in a healthy society, should be considered a criminal act and charged accordingly. To require tax payers like myself and hundreds of thousands of other Mainers who oppose this bill and the practices of abortion and gender affirming care to pay for these services is an absolute abuse of your power and mis-management of our money. I will not be complicit in such immorality and degradation of our society and I strongly urge you to listen to the voices of Mainers across the state and vote "Ought not to pass" on LD 227.