

Ralph Cadman  
Westport Island  
LD 227

Greetings,I am submitting my response to the amendment proposed to LD227. First, I strongly object to the non transparent process by which the content of this amendment was only made available a few short days prior to public hearing, and that said hearing is held on short notice on Election day - all of which I believe is intended to obfuscate the content and constrain the ability for review and commentary.Second, I object to the content and intent of the amendment itself. I specifically object to the establishment of gender affirming care as a Right in the state of Maine. A Right creates an obligation. This is much stronger than simply providing gender affirming care. This Right creates an undue obligation on the part of families, the courts, and the justice system to uphold compliance, despite the well meaning intent of families. Establishing this as a state Right immune from resident and non resident challenge is too drastic an action. This action will remove the ability of parents to exercise their responsibility as primary health care guardians for their children, and create Maine as a sanctuary state for minors seeking gender affirming care from out of state. The long term effects of gender affirming care are not known at this time, and we see progressive countries in Western Europe drastically scaling back the trend to apply gender affirming care. Please vote against this amendment.thank you, Ralph Cadman, Lincoln County Maine