

Betsy Creisher  
Shapleigh  
LD 227

The issue at hand, LD227, has both medical and societal implications. Both will have profound long-term effects that must be considered carefully. We must make sure that we have considered all aspects of potential effects and are not just reacting emotionally to current social trends before voting for this bill.

There is a vast array of conflicting data regarding transgender treatment for minors. It is absolutely NOT settled that surgery or medication improve the lives of young children either in the short or the long term. Although we are continually being told by some that this is a settled issue, there are many doctors who detail the harm caused by irrevocable surgeries—and they are irrevocable—and medications on those whose brains and psyche are not yet fully developed. The fact that we would be imposing these treatments on children when there are no long-term studies, and many conflicting voices concerning short-term efficacy, is abusive. We must put a halt to these treatments, not encourage them. To offer treatment based on poorly researched and poorly understood “science” is to offer, not a fix, but a lifetime of damage and regret to our children. We say that we want to support and affirm them, but if harming them is what we are actually doing, then no one is being supported or helped.

Additionally, allowing, even encouraging, those who are not a child’s parents to bring them across state lines to be treated with poorly researched and poorly understood medical intervention is reprehensible. It destroys the family unit, makes a mockery of parents’ rights to raise their own children and is nothing more than legalized kidnapping. Instead of becoming a bastion of freedom and leading the way, Maine will become a state known to have promulgated bad science on those most vulnerable to abuse—destroying not only the child but the family as well.

Vote NO on LD227