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LD 227

Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee Members:

I am a woman, a wife and a mother of three, and I have lived in Maine most of 50 years. I adamantly oppose LD 227 in spirit and letter and urge you to vote it down.

No state law should supersede other state laws addressing the same issue.

When SCOTUS overturned Roe v. Wade, it fell back to the States to govern abortion in their own state. LD227 undermines any law any state creates to do their Constitutional duty. Further, after the ruling, Democrats claimed that Conservatives in Maine would ban abortion, and the opposite happened. Maine's abortion law was already 24 weeks, 2 weeks beyond viability- and Conservatives put up NO legislation to change it. Yet Democrats convinced Mainers they needed to enable full term abortion to "protect reproductive rights" -- and even lessened women's health care to boot by removing the requirement for a physician to perform it (!). Democrats duped voters then, and LD227 continues that pattern of deceit and immoral governance.

In creating this "safe haven" for underage abortion and gender medical treatment, LD227 leaves room for abuse like our country has never seen sanctioned in law. LD227 makes Maine a potential child trafficking epicenter of the nation's most vulnerable and mentally ill children.

Laws should always take into account goals vs. worst case scenarios. In this case, a child can be literally kidnapped by any adult - their librarian, their counselor, an 18 year old friend, any adult they hire to sign for them- and taken to Maine for abortion or irreversible medical intervention. No reporting, legal trail or repercussion. Have any of you even thought of what this legislation will look like in practice? What support system is needed for recovery of a child from these kinds of procedures? Vague language like LD227 legalizes worst case scenarios.

Never has our government so hostilely assaulted the sanctity or sovereignty of the family unit, of parental rights, to make this bill even fathomable. Never has our mental health system openly disregarded the importance of family to a child's mental health that they would support this bill and the abuses it could enable. This bill leaves potential of being the most extreme manifestation to date of legislation fueled by a combusting cult social movement that literally defies science, child psychology, or any conventional wisdom on treating mental health in society. Each of you should question the breakneck pace our government is changing definitions and governing citizens' private lives, in this case, to allow any adult to facilitate the whims of children to change their physiology forever. This kind of societal blackmail is surely leading to the swift downfall of our civilization, and I implore you to take a moment and return to discourse and reason in creating our laws.

Bills should be written with distinct definitions that result from thorough and robust discourse from which the best ideas prevail. This bill tucks devastating procedures to minors in under a euphemistic blanket label of "legally protected healthcare activity". Open language in legislation poses dangers to civil liberties. What else might the State, or Courts deem legally protected healthcare in our future? Anything that becomes law. Maybe Sterilization of Conservatives? That would have sounded far fetched in 2019, but seeing the types of laws Progressive Maine legislators are bulldozing society with in the last two years, I have no idea what is to come.

Legislation as extreme as this delivers Maine and the nation at a point of no return. We are achieving a moral and civil degradation so severe, that people suddenly - and willfully - no longer recognize that it is wrong to mutilate physically healthy children. It should be expressly illegal for any given adult to take any action with children without their parents' knowledge and consent.

I was born and raised in Maine, and the state is unrecognizable. I urge you to disarm this grenade and vote down LD227.