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LD 227

Senator Bailey, Representative Perry, and members of the Legislative Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee, I am Clare Desrosiers, I live in Linneus, Maine, and I am here to testify strongly against LD 227, An Act Regarding Health Care in the State. This proposed law is both unconstitutional and immoral. Any change to the law to promote abortion on demand harms unborn children who cannot speak for themselves but will suffer the ultimate price. It further harms women the majority of women who obtain an abortion are traumatized by the experience and deeply regret their decision to abort their child. Our state should not be looking to expand access to this traumatic, medically unnecessary procedure but should be supporting policies that help pregnant women keep their child and encourage father's to support mother and child.

I recently lost a grandchild to abortion because the mother chose, without my son's consent, to kill their child even when my son said he would care for the child. Not only was a child killed, my son was traumatized by the loss of his first child, a child he wanted even though he was unexpected. On the other side, many young girls do not want to get abortions but are forced to do so by their boyfriend. At the very least, policies that require dual parental consent for abortion would prevent such things from happening.

In relation to "gender-affirming care", children especially are harmed when they are told that they can "change" their sex or, further, be given hormones that will affect their development and possibly render them infertile as adults. Parents deserve better guidance on these important decisions, and we should urge our medical institutions to honor the basic medical principle of "first, do no harm." Gender ideology harms individuals and societies by sowing confusion and self-doubt. The state itself has a compelling interest, therefore, in maintaining policies that uphold the scientific fact of human biology and supporting the social institutions and norms that surround it. I urge you to only support policies that uphold the truth of a person's sexual identity as male or female, and the privacy and safety of all. As a state, we should be working for renewed appreciation of the beauty of sexual difference in our culture and for authentic support of those who experience conflict with their biological sexual identity.