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LD 227

As disturbing as the violation of parental rights aspect of this bill is, I wanted to present another reason why this bill is a terrible idea.

I have friends that are currently dying of cancer without treatment because there are no beds available in the state. It took me TWO YEARS for my kids to see their first dentist. I am currently advising friends suffering with mental illness who are unable to receive psychiatric help because the waitlist is too long. Addicts seeking to get clean are told by the emergency room to go to a drug dealer to avoid dying from withdrawal because there are no detox beds available. A man in my home town died of a treatable emergency waiting two hours for an ambulance to come get him. We recently lost our PCP and there is no one to replace her.

I could go on for hours and hours about the lack of basic medical care for Mainers, and yet we think it would be a good idea to invite others from across the country to add to the waiting list?