

Rebecca Hinchliffe  
Levant  
LD 227

Senator Bailey, Representative Perry and members of the Legislative Health Care, Insurance and Financial Services Committee,

My name is Rebecca Hinchliffe, I live in Levant, Maine and am writing today to ask that you vote against LD 227. Regardless of what I believe regarding gender transitioning, this bill would be detrimental to our state. The medical provisions in LD227 will make gender surgeries and hormone medication a “legal right”. Parents and law enforcement will be powerless to intervene when their own children (minors) are seeking treatment. Apart from the obvious fact that most children are not developmentally prepared to make fully informed decisions on such extreme and irreversible matters, they would be unethically taken away from their parents. Parental rights would be thrown out the window and far too much power would be given to the state, an entity that has great potential for a conflict of interest. Also, if Maine is the only state in the country offering such extreme protection to hide children from parents and guardians, there will be little to protect children in cases of kidnapping or child trafficking. The reality that parents across America could stand to lose their parental rights if their own children came to Maine to take advantage of this is unthinkable. If you as our legislators really want to care for the children of our state, you will see that passing legislation that could ensure the removal of the rights of the parents of Maine and across the country is not the way to do that. I urge you to please vote ought not to pass on LD227.

Respectfully,  
Rebecca Hinchliffe