

Sheila Murphy
BRUNSWICK
LD 227

To whom it may concern on the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services.

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to LD 227 for three serious reasons.

First, the bill includes two distinct issues that should be voted on separately. Neither issue gets its due to be grouped together. Abortion rights and the right of minors to receive gender surgery (and other gender-affirming medical treatment) are not related enough to be grouped together. This is clearly using the pro-choice lobby to achieve a result unrelated to their cause. They should be outraged at being used.

Second, we should not be supporting anything that causes ruptures in relationships between teenagers and their parents. To welcome, even encourage teens to have medical procedures related to their sexuality without consulting parents is to contribute to the dissolution of families. Rather, the State would do well to provide programs that increase communication between teenagers and their parents. To those who say such medical interventions are necessary in order to prevent teenage suicide, I strongly suggest that they search for data to support their claim. No such data exists.

Third and finally, to become a “sanctuary state” for abortion and gender-affirming medical care is effectively advertise nationally to make Maine a business for these destructive procedures. It is clear that Maine will be paying for these procedures. This is an overstep of managing our state budget.

Please, stop and think deeply about what you are proposing. Do we really want to be creating a culture so hostile to unborn humans and teenagers? Let’s do better.

Most sincerely,

Sheila Murphy
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