

John Wallace
Greene
LD 227

Senator Baily, Representative Perry and members of the Legislative Health Care, Insurance and Financial Services Committee, I am John Wallace, I live in Greene, Maine and I am here to testify strongly against LD 227, An Act Regarding Health Care in the State.

All civilizations are dependent on the indispensable foundation of its constituent families. Furthermore, a government exists for the good of its citizens and not the other way round. History has repeatedly shown that when government interferes with or circumvents the family unit, then that government (and thereby, that state or nation) will eventually fail.

Being a parent is a gift as well as a responsibility, and sound government has a responsibility to protect the family structure. If a son or daughter is all skin and bones as a result of anorexia, is it in their best interest for a parent to go along with their child's wishes to start a diet because their child thinks they are overweight? If a child feels that they want to remove their limbs, is it in their best interest for a parent to go along with their child's wishes? The answer to both questions would be NO, because a good and loving parent would not endorse or enable such insanity but would rather seek psychiatric counseling to address the mental condition of their child. Likewise, when a child thinks that they want to pursue an endeavor that will cause irreversible mutilation of their body (often regretted later in life, and in some cases ending in suicide), a loving and caring parent will do the right thing and prevent such harm to their child. And I would expect a sound government that exists "of the people, by the people, and for the people" to likewise uphold and support sound parenting for the protection of our families and our children.

Thank you for listening. I pray that you carefully reflect on the gravity of this issue and the threat to our society that would result from this proposed legislation.