## Testimony of Scott Wilson

## Against LD227

## An Act Regarding Health Care in the State

Senator Bailey and Representative Perry, and members of the joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services, my name is Scott Wilson and I live in Rangeley Maine and I am writing in opposition to LD227.

I oppose LD227 because it enshrines into law "gender-affirming care" and reproductive healthcare services" and these terms are simply euphemisms for transgender ideology and abortion respectively. Let's be honest about the terms and what they mean and not try to hide behind linguistic gymnastics. There are many citizens of the State of Maine who oppose these items on moral and religious grounds and all this bill will accomplish is to make them into criminals when they provide counsel in line with their deeply held convictions. This bill also usurps the rights of parents by falsely asserting that the only course of action open to a parent is to acquiesce to their child's wishes in these areas even if it is not in the best interest of the child. There may be underlying physical or emotional conditions that are driving the child's choice, but this bill would not allow those to be addressed. Rather than taking the time to address the real issues, the parents would be forced to comply with the terms of this bill. How does that help the child? The parents are the ones responsible for raising and nurturing their children and they often have to make difficult choices, some of which the child may not like. Why do we think that an adolescent, who we recognize is not emotionally and intellectually developed to drive or get married, has the capacity to know what is best in this area which often involves irreversible, life altering choices? The State of Maine should be seeking to support parents and families and not divide them simply to further a social agenda.

In closing let me repeat that I am opposed to LD227and would urge you to vote ought not to pass. Thank you for taking the time to read this, I appreciate it.

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Scott Wilson