



## **Testimony in Support of LD 492: RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Provide for Parental Rights**

March 4, 2025

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary:

My name is Nick Adolphsen, and I am writing on behalf of the Christian Civic League of Maine in support of LD 492, a resolution to amend the Maine Constitution to protect parental rights. This amendment is essential to affirm the fundamental role of parents in directing their children's upbringing, education, and healthcare.

Parental rights are a cornerstone of our society. Parents have the inherent right and responsibility to guide their children's development, make critical decisions regarding education and healthcare, and shape their moral and religious upbringing. However, we have seen a steady erosion of these rights—both nationally and here in Maine, particularly in education and healthcare policies that sideline parents.

By amending the Maine Constitution, we can ensure these fundamental liberties are protected from undue government interference. This amendment would establish a clear legal safeguard, requiring the highest level of judicial scrutiny for any government action that infringes on parental rights.

Maine is not alone in recognizing this need. The Families' Rights and Responsibilities Act, introduced in Congress, affirms the fundamental right of parents to direct their children's upbringing and education. States across the country are taking similar action to preserve these essential freedoms.

LD 492 is a proactive and necessary step to uphold parental rights in Maine. By embedding these protections in our state constitution, we affirm the vital role parents play and preserve these liberties for future generations.

I urge the Judiciary Committee to support LD 492. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Adolphsen  
Executive Director  
Christian Civic League of Maine