

David Souers
Friendship
LD 492
March 4, 2025

Senator Anne Carney, Chair
Representative Amy Kuhn, Chair
Members of the Judiciary Committee

Re:LD 49210 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of
Maine to Provide for Parental Rights

Good afternoon. My name is David Souers. I am a resident of Friendship. I am writing to question if LD 492 has a needed purpose that is not addressed in the Constitution and laws of the state?

As a parent, I never experienced any inability to raise our children in accordance with our responsibilities, preferences and values within the laws of the states that we have lived in or visited, including Maine. The bill seems to imply that parents can create their own definitions of terms, conditions and purposes for which they can override the laws of the state that are intended to protect all citizens, residents and visitors in the state. I expect the existing protections extend beyond the parent and child, to include parents and/or children coming into another family's home, parents and their children attending activities in public places, the affects of parents and children on others. This bills seems to want to place a parent's preferences and decisions affecting their child above the welfare of all other parents, children and people within the state of Maine.

Is this bill needed or is it simply an effort to defy the public good for which the state is responsible?

Thank you.