

Ellen Freed
Hallowell
LD 380

To the members of the Judiciary Committee'

As a practitioner of the Jewish faith which is based on Tikkun Olam, mending the world, I am deeply troubled by efforts to decrease safety for our trans compatriots. As the parent of a trans man, I am horrified by the efforts of some to erase the rights of trans individuals and families in the State of Maine. Decisions about gender affirming medical care belong with patients, providers and families. The decision to insert governmental regulations into these decisions is a violation of safety and equal rights for the trans community.

In my career as a Clinical Social Worker, I have sat with individuals and families wrestling with issues around gender identity. Gender Dysphoria is real and if ignored can result in unrelenting depression, anxiety, self harm and risk of death by suicide. Trans and nonbinary people's well being and lives are at stake.

I urge you to vote against the insanity of LD 380. We can stand up for the rights of trans persons in the State of Maine and model acceptance for the rest of the nation.

With respect,
Ellen Freed