

Alisha Heal  
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LD 380

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Thank you for the opportunity to address the committee. My name is Alisha Heal and I am a resident of Kennebunk Maine, clinical social worker, parent and concerned citizen. I am offering written testimony against LD380. Mainers value personal autonomy to make choices for themselves and their children. Rolling back protective provisions for providers offering gender affirming care and individuals and families seeking gender affirming care is an infringement on Mainer's right to personal autonomy. For individuals and families across our great state, gender affirming care is life saving, literally decreasing rates of depression and preventing suicide. Major medical associations believe that trans healthcare is both safe and necessary, allowing trans people to live full, healthy lives as their true selves. There is no place for the government in medical care decisions. In short, accessing gender affirming care is a protected choice between the trained medical provider offering care and the individual/family seeking care. As Mainers, it is important that we continue to uphold the removal of government from personal medical choices and treat trans individuals with dignity, respect and autonomy around accessing medical care. I urge you to vote against LD 380 and to keep the choices of medical care in the hands of Mainers, not their government.