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Testimony in Opposition of LD 380: An Act to Amend Certain Laws Regarding Gender-affirming Health Care Services

May 6th, 2025

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and members of Committee on Judiciary, I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony regarding this legislation. My name is Fred McCann. I'm a resident of Portland and I'm currently serving as Vice President on the Portland Water District Board of Trustees.

I am writing in strong opposition to LD 380. While the bill's title suggests it is solely focused on gender-affirming care, it affects both gender-affirming and reproductive health care in Maine.

Firstly, this bill would remove providers of reproductive and gender-affirming health care from the Address Confidentiality Program, leaving them vulnerable to harassment and violence from extremists who disagree with the provision of legal health care. It is unconscionable to target these health care professionals and their loved ones for simply doing their jobs and the state should continue to protect them.

This bill, if passed, would undo important protections that have been put in place to ensure access to gender-affirming and reproductive health care services for all Mainers. It would would repeal the current process by which a minor consents to gender-affirming hormone therapy and follow-up care. This would result in a prohibition on minors from receiving necessary gender-affirming care unless they have parental or guardian consent. This restriction would undoubtedly erect barriers to access essential health care for transgender and gender non-binary youth.

Moreover, the bill's proposed changes would expose Maine's healthcare practitioners to the risk of out-of-state criminal prosecution for providing standard-of-care health care as legally allowed in Maine. This legislation could jeopardize the livelihoods and professional reputations of our state's medical professionals, deterring them from practicing in Maine and potentially leading to a shortage of qualified providers and thus reduce access to care.

As a supporter of the right to health care, I believe it is crucial that we maintain the current protections in place for those seeking gender-affirming and reproductive health care services. There is no sound basis for making these vital services harder to access for Mainers, and I urge you to reject LD 380.

Sincerely,

Fred McCann

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