

April 29, 2025

RE: LD380 – An Act to Amend Certain Laws Regarding Gender-affirming Health Care Services

My name is Douglass Moore, and I live in Sabattus. I am testifying in opposition to LD380.

LD 380 – “An Act to Amend Certain Laws Regarding Gender-affirming Health Care Services”

(AKA: “An Act to Let Other States Decide What Healthcare Mainers Can Have.”)

Senator Haggan, Cyrway, Representative Caruso, and others sponsoring this bill are making an astonishingly clear statement: they do not believe transgender Mainers deserve equal protection, access to care, or basic human dignity.

LD 380 is a cruel and far-reaching rollback of protections that were only recently enacted to keep Mainers safe. The law it seeks to repeal protected patients, providers, and those assisting with gender-affirming and reproductive healthcare from out-of-state harassment, investigations, subpoenas, and insurance discrimination. That’s it. It shielded people from being punished for something that is *fully legal in Maine*.

LD 380 would repeal those protections and make it open season for other states to reach into our borders and persecute Mainers for providing or accessing care that is in line with best medical practices and the law here at home. There is no other way to say it: this bill would let politicians in Texas or Idaho dictate what happens in a clinic or doctor’s office in Portland, Presque Isle, or anywhere in between.

It’s also worth noting that this bill is not some surgical, good-faith revision. It is a scorched-earth repeal. It undoes:

- Confidentiality protections for victims and providers;
- Limits on insurance discrimination against providers who offer this care;
- Protections against legal fishing expeditions from out-of-state authorities.

Let’s be honest about what’s happening. The sponsors of this bill don’t believe trans people should exist — or if they do, they shouldn’t be treated with dignity or have access to medically appropriate care. This bill is not about “parental rights” or “public safety.” It’s about punishing people for existing.

And it is part of a much larger national effort to make healthcare for trans people so difficult, so legally risky, and so terrifying to access that people stop trying. It won't work — it'll just increase suffering.

This bill reminds me of a time not so long ago when Catholic schoolteachers and nuns would force left-handed children to write with their right hands — as if forcing conformity could change something innate. That approach didn't work then, and it doesn't work now. Today, gender-affirming care is supported by every major medical organization because it helps people live full, authentic lives. And frankly, many people who have transitioned with access to that care “pass” so well that no one even knows they were born a different sex — unless someone decides to out them or write laws like this one to target them. That's what makes this bill so absurd. It ignores both the lived reality and overwhelming medical evidence that this care works. We don't punish left-handed kids anymore — let's not punish trans people for being who they are.

Trans Mainers deserve the freedom to live their lives without fear that lawmakers will drag them into the latest moral panic. Doctors deserve to practice medicine without needing to consult a political map. No one should be afraid to get a prescription filled or go to a support group.

LD 380 is shameful, dangerous, and utterly unserious as a piece of policy. It would violate the spirit of federalism, public health, and basic human decency.

Please reject it.