

Kara Potter
Washington
LD 380

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May 6, 2025

Greetings Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee. Thank you for this opportunity to share my testimony with you.

My name is Kara Potter and I'm writing to ask you to vote AGAINST letting LD 380: An Act to Amend Certain Laws Regarding Gender-affirming Health Care Services out of committee .

As you know this bill would repeal the current process by which a minor consents to gender-affirming hormone therapy and follow-up care, which would result in a prohibition on minors age 16 to 18 receiving gender-affirming care unless the minor child has parent or guardian consent.

Repealing Maine's Shield Law would subject Maine's already-strained healthcare infrastructure to out-of-state criminal prosecutions for providing standard-of-care health care as legally allowed in this state. Maine state law has allowed doctors and patients to safely give and receive the care they need, and LD 380 would come between that, causing great harm to health care providers and patients alike.

We must continue to protect each and every Mainer's civil rights - including their right to healthcare - especially in this moment when many at the federal level are threatening to take them away.

There's no reason the legislature needs to insert themselves into the relationship between an individual (regardless of age) and their health care providers. I hope you'll vote "Ought Not to Pass" on LD 380.

Thank you for your time.