Sarah Shepro Portland LD 380

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee.

My name is Sarah Shepro, I'm a resident of Portland. I'm writing to strongly oppose LD380, and the other anti-trans bills being heard by the committee today. These bills are nothing more than an unjustified attempt to systematically erase trans people.

This bill threatens the safety of patients and penalizes practitioners from providing necessary and science-driven care. Patients and healthcare providers deserve to receive and provide care without fear for their safety and privacy.

It's cruel and unnecessary to punish patients for making choices about their own health, and to punish providers for helping them on the basis of being trans, or someone who receives reproductive healthcare services.

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 especially cause great harm to health care providers.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee. I urge you to vote "Ought not to Pass" on these bills. Thank you!