

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE

**HOUSE RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE CENSURE OF
REPRESENTATIVE LAUREL D. LIBBY OF AUBURN BY THE
MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

WHEREAS, on or about February 17, 2025, Representative Laurel D. Libby of Auburn posted on her Facebook page photos of a high school athlete, a minor, who won a girls' track championship this year; and

WHEREAS, in that same post, Representative Libby identified the student athlete by name and shared pictures showing the minor in an athletic uniform with the school name clearly legible and blurred the faces of other student athletes to protect their privacy, while intentionally and deliberately leaving the named student's face exposed; and

WHEREAS, accompanying the pictures, Representative Libby posted a statement criticizing the participation of transgender students in high school sports; and

WHEREAS, Representative Libby's post has received national attention that she has amplified by appearing on national television and radio broadcasts to discuss; and

WHEREAS, a recent study from the Williams Institute at UCLA found that transgender people are over four times more likely to be victims of violence; and

WHEREAS, numerous replies to Representative Libby's post suggested that harm should come to the young athlete; and

WHEREAS, Representative Libby's post named the minor and used photos of the minor without that minor's consent, in an effort to advance her political agenda; and

WHEREAS, when it was brought to her attention that her post may endanger the minor, Representative Libby refused to take down the post and instead continued to bring media attention to the minor; and

WHEREAS, it is a basic tenet of politics and good moral character that children should not be targeted by adult politicians, especially when that targeting could result in serious harm; and

WHEREAS, the school district, as a result of Representative Libby's actions, has had to increase security at the school causing unnecessary stress and disruption to other students, parents, teachers and school support staff and the entire community; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Code of Ethics expressly states that "a Legislator is entrusted with the security, safety, health, prosperity, respect and general well-being of those the Legislator serves and with whom the Legislator serves" and that "The Maine Legislator will be ever mindful of the ordinary citizen who might otherwise be unrepresented and will endeavor conscientiously to pursue the highest standards of legislative conduct inside and outside of the State House"; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article IV, Part Third, Section 4 of the Constitution of Maine, which states that each House may "punish its members for disorderly behavior," and pursuant to Section 561, subsection 1 of Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure, which states that "A legislative body has the right to regulate the conduct of its members and may discipline a member as it deems appropriate, including reprimand, censure or expulsion," the House is the judge of its own membership; and

WHEREAS, the House finds the conduct of Representative Laurel D. Libby to be reprehensible and in direct violation of our code of ethics; and

WHEREAS, the House finds that Representative Laurel D. Libby has conducted herself in a manner incompatible with her duty and responsibilities as a Member of this House and the public trust and high standards incumbent in that office; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the House of Representatives of the One Hundred and Thirty-second Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to declare that Representative Laurel D. Libby should be and hereby is censured by the House of Representatives for just cause; and be it further

RESOLVED: That Representative Laurel D. Libby must accept full responsibility for the incident and publicly apologize to the House and to the people of the State of Maine; and be it further

RESOLVED: That Representative Laurel D. Libby must comport herself in a manner that pursues the highest standards of legislative conduct; and be it further

RESOLVED: That this resolution must be entered on the Journal of the House of Representatives.