Senator Rafferty

Representative Brennan

Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Education & Cultural Affairs

Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan, distinguished members of the committee, my name is Erin Bjorkdahl and I am writing to urge you to support LD 254: An Act to Update the Sex Education & Cultural Affairs. I am a Health Educator at the high school level and teach this content to the students. I strongly believe young people should have all the information available to make informed choices about their sexual and reproductive health.

The sex education I received growin up was very focused on the gender binary and the consequences associated with sexual activity. I think it would have been more helpful to talk about the resources available to students in the area and online.

We need a model of sexuality education where everyone feels included no matter their gender or sexual identity and that everyone could leave with information that would help them make healthy choices related to their sexual health.

Please vote "Ought to Pass" on LD 254: An Act to Update the Sex Education & Consent Curriculum. Thank you so much for your time & attention.

Erin Bjorkdahl

118 Greenwood Ln

Portland, ME

04103