Abbee Hoyt Yarmouth LD 537

Testimony in Support of LD 537 – An Act to Prohibit the Doxing of a Minor and to Authorize a Related Civil Action

Abbee Hoyt Yarmouth, Maine February 24, 2025

Chairperson Kuhn, Chairperson Carney and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Bill LD 537, a crucial piece of legislation that aims to protect minors from the devastating consequences of doxing.

Doxing—the malicious act of publicly sharing someone's private information with the intent to harass, intimidate, or cause harm—has become an increasingly dangerous threat in our digital age. Victims of doxing often face relentless harassment, threats of violence, job loss, and even physical danger, simply because their personal information was weaponized against them.

I am here today after witnessing the damage doxing can have on minors, their families and even entire communities. This is not just an online inconvenience—it is a real and urgent danger.

Without clear legal protections, perpetrators of doxing continue to act with impunity, leaving victims with little recourse. LD 537 will provide much-needed safeguards.

I urge this committee to stand on the side of privacy, safety, and justice. Passing LD 537 will send a clear message that weaponizing personal information of minors to harass, intimidate, and endanger minors will not be tolerated.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I respectfully ask for your support of this bill.

Sincerely, Abbee Hoyt Yarmouth, Maine