Braden Heal Kennebunk LD 260 Braden Heal Kennebunk, Maine March 4th 2025 LD260

Thank you for the opportunity to address the committee. My name is Braden Heal and I am a resident of Kennebunk Maine, Physical therapist, Athletic trainer, parent and concerned citizen. I am offering written testimony in support of LD260. It is essential that the same protections afforded all Mainers extend to our most vulnerable populations, specifically women and other marginalized groups. The current policies in our country are cherry picking which Americans are protected under the law, a travesty of the core principles America was built upon; equality for all means ALL. As a state we must protect all our citizens. Maine is known for its "The Way Life Should Be" and "Welcome Home" slogans. Without equal rights protecting every person in our state, these slogans are empty platitudes. In short, for the marginalized communities I support as a clinician in the medical industry, for my family members who identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ community and for the future of my child to grow up in a world where the rights of all matter above the rights of the few, LD260 is an essential piece of legislation for my home state of Maine to pass. Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee. I urge you to vote "Ought to Pass" on LD260.