

Kate Beever
Portland
LD 537

March 2, 2025

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Dear Maine Legislatures,

I am writing to express my support for LD 537- An Act to Prohibit the Doxing of a Minor and to Authorize a Related Civil Action. As an educator, therapist, and healthcare worker, I have been horrified to witness the very public attempt at shaming and bullying a child that has come from one of our state reps. She's allowed to think whatever she wants about gender and sexuality, but she should not be allowed to go after anyone- especially children- in such a harmful and malicious way.

The conversation about gender in sports is so misguided to begin with- my opinion is that it's an absolute distraction from the current dismantling of democracy- and it's almost laughable that people with such narrow viewpoints are suddenly pretending to care about women's rights. If schools really wanted to create equality in sports, there are a hundred changes that could be made. School sports should be about physical health, teamwork, communication. Alas, that's a conversation for another day, and in the meantime, we need to do all we can to protect minors from abuse from adults. The rate of suicidal ideation of transgender and nonbinary individuals is high, and prevention of the harm or loss of any child should be at the forefront of every so-called leader in our state. You'd think a former ICU nurse would recognize the danger of bullying teenagers.

This bill will help to empower communities to create safety for children to be who they are, which includes participating in any school activities that they want to try.

Sincerely yours,
Kate Beever, MA