

Colin Vettier
Portland
LD 260

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn and Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee Judiciary.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my written testimony to the Committee.

My name is Colin Vettier and I'm a resident of Portland.

I am writing today in support of LD 260.

I deeply believe that democracy without equality cannot exist, that freedom without equality is just an empty word. How can we be proud about our country, when we know that half of the population is paid less simply based on their gender? How can we think the US as the symbol of freedom when so many struggle with discrimination.

Being an immigrant myself (although a privileged one), I have seen how easily inequality is waged. Starting with people refusing to help as they pretend to not understand my accent.

I think that a country can only be truly the embodiment of freedom if inequality is addressed seriously and systematically.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee. I urge you to vote "Ought to Pass" on LD260. Thank you!