

March 3, 2025

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

My name is Mary Barnes and I live in Sedgwick, Maine.

I write you today on behalf of Equal Rights Maine to present testimony for recognition of the federal Equal Rights Amendment and for an equality amendment to our state constitution. It is essential that protections against all forms of *sex discrimination* be fully instated through the passage of **LD 260** which includes all the protected categories laid out in the Maine Human Rights Act.

For Maine to move forward as a powerful and open-minded state **the passage of LD 260 becomes paramount**. Respect, unity, opportunity and humanity all speak out to every person being equal under the law, in their homes, at work and enabled contributors to our state.

Make us all equal! Support **EVERY** person to be a fully recognized citizen of Maine.

Passing LD 260 would be a statement of principle, making us all equal, and allowing everyone to be the BEST Mainer they can be.

VOTE “Ought to Pass” on LD260. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mary Barnes