Katy Cowles Portland LD 260 Katy Cowles Portland, ME March 4, 2025

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

I am writing to support LD 260. I have 1 son and 2 daughters and a multi-racial family. I have cousins who are gay and friends who are trans. My community is wonderfully diverse. How could it be right for any one of us to be discriminated against because of our gender, sexual orientation, race or national origin? These are good honest people who are filled with love, who act responsibly, and who make our world a better place. An inclusive ERA would ensure that even if laws change, my family and friends, and everyone in my community, would still have access to Constitutional protection and equal legal rights. As fair-minded Mainers, let's lead the way for the rest of the country!

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

Katy