



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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*Testimony of Representative Matthew Beck in Favor of*

## **LD 260, RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Establish That All Maine Residents Have Equal Rights Under the Law**

*Before the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary*

**March 4, 2025**

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and esteemed colleagues of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. My name is Matthew Beck, and I have the privilege of representing House District 122, the easternmost section of South Portland.

I would like to enthusiastically lend my support to **LD 260, RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Establish That All Maine Residents Have Equal Rights Under the Law.**

My testimony is brief but emphatic. As the State Representative currently occupying the seat previously held by civil rights and human rights champion Lois Galgay Reckitt, I will never be able to fill her shoes or spend many decades advocating for justice as she did. Many members of the Maine Legislature on both sides of the aisle were proud to call Lois their friend. I also was fortunate enough to call Lois my friend long before I was elected to fill her seat.

Although I can't fill her shoes, I'd be remiss if I didn't make clear that I share her belief that placing the Equal Rights Amendment in the Maine Constitution is long overdue and consistent with her commitment to freedom and justice for all. You will likely hear from many other people who will speak to the values and righteousness of this cause. And if you listen carefully, I believe you will hear Lois's voice echoing through the halls of this committee room and the entire State House, imploring you to do the right thing.

Please support LD 260 to ensure that all Maine residents have equal rights under the law.