

Emilia Toth
Portland
LD 260

TO: The Honorable Anne Carney
Representative Kuhn
Members of the Judiciary Committee
DATE: March 4, 2025

RE: RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to
Establish That All Maine Residents Have Equal Rights Under the Law

Good morning, Senator Carney and Representative Kuhn,
My name is Emilia Toth. I'm a resident of Portland and a staff member with the
League of Women Voters Maine. I have been closely following the progress of the
Equal Rights Amendment, and I am testifying in support of LD 260.

As a young, queer woman, I was forced to understand from an early age that my
rights were not equally protected under national law. I was a young feminist learning
about the importance of women's suffrage and the original fight for the ERA. It was
shocking to discover that the ERA had not passed and still hadn't been added to the
Constitution. Now, the importance of the ERA has become extremely clear, as our
current administration is a threat to so many identities. Maine has the opportunity to
protect these identities.

Everyone, regardless of age, sex, gender, race, class, sexuality, should have equal
rights and protections under state and national law. We have allowed the ERA to
remain in progress for far too long. It's time to ensure equal rights and protection for
all.

I am glad that our state lawmakers have stepped up to introduce a state bill that would
constitutionalize the ERA. I urge you to vote Ought to Pass on LD 260.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
Emilia Toth
Portland, ME
March 4, 2025