

Benn Marine  
Cumberland  
LD 537

Testimony in Support of LD 537

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and distinguished members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Benn Marine, and I am writing today in strong support of LD 537 An Act to Prohibit the Doxing of a Minor. I am a resident of Cumberland, Maine, a leader in the business community, and serve as the Director of Social and Environmental Impact for a Maine business. But above all, I am someone who believes in the fundamental right of every child to grow up safe, supported, and free from harm.

Unfortunately, that belief has been shaken in recent weeks. A Maine legislator chose to publicly target and endanger a transgender high school athlete, using her platform to incite harassment and threats against a minor. This student was from my own community. Let me be clear: this was not a debate about policy. This was an adult wielding power to intimidate a child. And the impact of such actions cannot be overstated.

We live in an era where online threats too often translate into real-world violence. Doxing—a form of targeted harassment that exposes private information—has become a tool of intimidation, disproportionately harming marginalized communities. But when it is used against minors, the consequences are even more dire. Children should not have to fear for their safety because an adult with a political agenda has decided they are an easy target.

LD 537 is not about politics. It is about drawing a clear line between acceptable discourse and dangerous behavior. No matter where someone stands on a given issue, there is no justification for putting a child's safety at risk. A minor should not have to endure threats, harassment, or worse because an adult failed to act with basic decency.

I have spent my career working to build stronger, more inclusive communities—places where young people feel safe to be themselves and where adults lead with integrity. Allowing the doxing of minors to go unchecked sends a chilling message: that our most vulnerable community members are fair game for harassment. That is not the Maine I know, and it is not the Maine I want to live in.

Passing LD 537 is a necessary step to ensure that our laws reflect our values. The safety of our children should never be in question, and those who choose to endanger them must be held accountable. I urge you to stand on the right side of history and vote in favor of this bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Benn Marine  
18 Hazeltine Dr., Cumberland, 04021  
benn@dirigocollective.com