

**Testimony in support of LD 537
to the Committee on Judiciary**

April 8, 2025

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and distinguished members of the Committee:

My name is Sarah Johnson and I am a resident of Sanford.

I am writing in support of LD 537, An Act to Prohibit the Doxing of a Minor and to Authorize a Related Civil Action.

We are in a world where cognitive adults knowing the potential harm in doxing a child find it well within their purview to cause that harm. I can not yet process that existing anywhere, but especially here in Maine. I thank the sponsors and cosponsors of LD537 for their efforts in protecting Maine's most vulnerable population, our children.

As Senator Carney noted in an interview published on March 17 in the [Portland Press Herald](#):
“Doxing makes a bad situation worse for vulnerable teenagers. A study supported by the National Institute of Health determined that the United States is facing “an adolescent mental health crisis.” Children experiencing depression are at risk for engaging in self-harm and in some cases, suicide. The public disclosure of their private information can further worsen their mental health. Doxing violates not only these children's privacy, but also their sense of personal safety.”

No person should be the target of doxing and subject to the trauma, threats and dangers that may ensue. We have an opportunity to protect our most vulnerable population from these attacks by passing LD 357.

I hope you will protect our children by supporting LD 357.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sarah Johnson
Sanford, Maine.