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I implore you to NOT REMOVE consideration of gender identity from the Maine Human Rights Act. I taught in Maine school districts and worked with children for many years in Pre-K age ranges 3.5 to 6 years old. In the beginning I was naive and didn't truly understand how innately and early children would identify individual gender that challenged external impression or influence. I educated myself further and spoke to several pediatricians and they repeatedly confirmed that gender assignment at birth can be a guessing game due to atypical external genitalia. Some infants are misgendered that's a fact. At the time tracking this issue was poorly and estimated to be about 1 in 96. Of the hundreds of children I taught, I found this to be so in terms of children who identified opposite of their assigned gender. This world is mean enough, don't interfere further. This issue alone is difficult enough on impacted individuals never mind being ostracized and forced to assume a role and identity that is unnatural to the core embodiment of your being. Over and above the above mentioned witness, these humans deserve to be who they are and what they feel is their true sense of being. We cannot dismiss because of limited thinking. When someone shows or shares with me who they are, I believe them. They are not wrong, or misguided. Their soul just doesn't match their body. Who cares. Empower them instead.