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LD 1134

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee, thank you for the opportunity to speak on this matter. I am testifying in opposition to LD 1134.

A fundamental concept of good governance is that for any bill to pass or new law to be made, it must demonstrate a clear need or a benefit to society. LD 1134 is sloppy legislation of the worst and most offensive kind, providing vague statements and no definitions, which could lead to over-broad interpretation, protracted legal debate, and inconsistency in application even if its premise were not already wholly unnecessary in the first place.

LD 1134 is seemingly predicated on misconceptions that run counter to established science and reality, while also demonstrating an unconscionable gender bias on top of its already discriminatory positioning. The implied presumption that men have inherent advantage over women in competitive activities as a whole is well established as false, and even if gender-based segregation of sports made any meaningful sense, the fact that women are not prohibited from participating in men's activities, in kind, underscores the bias and intellectual dishonesty in its position. Trans women are demonstrated in scientific research as not having any advantage over cis women, and compete in so small a number with no meaningful impact on outcomes that the very concept that legislation is needed around it is absurd, let alone legislation this thoughtlessly composed.

On the basis that this bill solves no real and meaningful problem while obfuscating or rendering ambiguous the manner in which the law is administered and puts at risk the funding of public institutions for no public benefit, it should be soundly rejected.