

Holly Williams
Levant
LD 233

I, Holly Williams, a resident of Levant, am submitting testimony AGAINST LD 233: An Act to Prohibit Biological Males from Participating in School Athletic Programs and Activities Designated for Females When State Funding Is Provided to the School.

As a parent of a queer son, I know that if this bill is enacted, it will hurt Maine students, families, schools and communities. Schools are supposed to provide a supportive environment, where all students are welcome to participate in class and in extracurricular activities. When more students participate in these activities, the better the school environment and morale. Students create friendships when participating in activities they all enjoy. It creates community and a sense of belonging for all involved.

If you enact this bill, you are putting ALL girls at risk of even more scrutiny and harassment than they already encounter, which I can assure you that is already happening and has been happening for the entire history of our country. This bill is saying that girls and women are weaker and inferior than biological males. If you've ever given birth, you know that's a lie.

Trans athletes vary in their athletic abilities, just like everyone else. I'm sure many students and parents not from North Yarmouth Academy are angry that a trans athlete kicked butt at the track meet last week. I also bet many students on opposing teams of Nokomis were angry that Cooper Flagg was playing a few years back. Guess what? Some people are really athletic. Period. Get over it.

This law is unnecessary since schools and sports associations already have their own rules. This is a waste of taxpayer's time and money. Honestly, it also has absolutely nothing to do with sports. You put this bill into action, you are inviting more policing within the schools and classrooms and we will be even deeper into a Margaret Atwood novel quicker than you can say handmaid.

Oh...one more thing...this bill is unconstitutional since it is discriminatory against the basis of sex.

Please don't vote for this. Please start thinking about the students and their safety and well being. This bill helps absolutely no one.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee. I urge you to vote "Ought not to pass" on this bill. Thank you.