

Alain Laverdure
Lewiston
LD 233

I am writing in support of 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.

This bill is not about exclusion; it is about fairness. For decades, Title IX has helped ensure that girls and young women have equal opportunities in sports. That progress was hard-won and must be protected. Allowing biological males—regardless of gender identity—to compete in female-only athletic programs undermines the very premise of Title IX and the opportunities it created.

The physiological differences between biological males and females—particularly after puberty—can create inherent advantages in strength, speed, and endurance. These differences are well-documented and acknowledged by sports governing bodies around the world. While we must show compassion and respect for all students, we must also preserve fairness and safety in competitive sports, especially in programs that are specifically designated for girls and women.

LD 233 seeks to ensure that female athletes do not lose out on starting positions, scholarships, or awards because of unfair competition. It is not an attack on any student, but a commitment to upholding the integrity and intent of female sports programs.

I urge you to pass LD 233 to protect the fairness, safety, and integrity of girls' and women's athletics in our state.