

Alain Laverdure
Lewiston
LD 1704

I am here to express my support for LD 1704 because I believe this legislation is essential to protect the safety, privacy, and dignity of all students in our schools.

Public school restrooms are private spaces where students expect a reasonable level of privacy. Allowing students to use restrooms designated for the opposite biological sex can lead to discomfort, confusion, and the potential for misuse of policy in ways that compromise the privacy rights of others—particularly young girls. It is not about exclusion or discrimination, but about maintaining clear, consistent boundaries in intimate spaces.

This bill does not prevent schools from supporting transgender students in other meaningful ways, such as providing access to single-occupancy or gender-neutral restrooms when needed. What it does is ensure that shared spaces like locker rooms and multi-stall restrooms remain segregated by biological sex, which aligns with common sense and long-standing social norms.

I recognize that this is a deeply personal and complex issue. My support for LD 1704 comes from a desire to uphold fairness and ensure that all students feel safe. I urge the committee to advance this bill and protect the rights and privacy of Maine's children.

Thank you for your consideration.