

Charles Temple
LINCOLNVILLE
LD 1002

I strongly oppose LD 1002. This bill, which would force schools to use only names and gender markers from birth certificates, directly harms transgender and nonbinary students who already face significant challenges in educational settings. All children deserve to be addressed with dignity and respect in their learning environments. Educators and school administrators are best positioned to work with families to support students' wellbeing, not restricted by rigid legislative mandates. Research consistently shows that acknowledging students' identities improves mental health outcomes and academic success. This bill would undermine the trusting relationships between students, families, and schools while creating unnecessary administrative burdens. I urge you to reject LD 1002 and instead support policies that respect the dignity of all Maine students and preserve schools' ability to create safe, inclusive learning environments.