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Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Nikki Williams, and I'm a resident of Portland. I am writing in opposition of the bills before the committee.

In 2025, why would we want to take rights away from people? These bills are huge steps backwards. As a state, we should be ensuring that all Mainers have equal rights and protections under the law. Bills that discriminate against transgender students violate both state and federal constitutional guarantees of equal protection.

Any attempt to strip Maine's federal funding for protecting trans people is a federal overreach because it is inaccurate about the law and Maine acted in accord with law at all times. Passing this would reward the federal government's bullying tactics and open the door for further attacks on Mainers' civil rights, but it won't make Maine more safe or fair for anyone.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee. I urge you to vote "Ought not to Pass" on these bills.

Thank you!
Nikki Williams