

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002 (207) 287-1400 TTY: Maine Relay 711

May 8, 2025

## Testimony of Representative Holly Eaton in opposition to LD 1704 – An Act to Prohibit a School Administrative Unit from Adopting a Policy That Allows a Student to Use a Restroom Designated for Use by the Opposite Sex

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Rep. Holly Eaton, and I represent House District 15, which includes Deer Isle, Stonington, Brooklin, Tremont, Southwest Harbor, Frenchboro, Swan's Island, Isle au Haut, and Vinalhaven. As a legislator, I hear from constituents across Maine who identify as transgender or non-binary and are simply asking to live with dignity, safety, and acceptance.

I oppose LD 1704 because it singles out transgender students and denies them access to a basic necessity: a restroom that aligns with their gender identity. School policies should be crafted to protect students, not restrict them. This bill promotes fear instead of fostering safe and inclusive environments where all students can learn and grow.

I respectfully urge the committee to vote Ought Not to Pass.

Thank you, Rep. Holly Eaton House District 15