

Lesley Andersen
Saco
LD 233

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

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee.

My name is Lesley Andersen, I'm a resident of Saco, and I am here today as a Mainer and educator.

I am here today in opposition of the bills before the committee today.

LD 233 targets transgender girls who want nothing more than to participate fully in school life, including athletics. As a woman, I know what it feels like to have to fight to be taken seriously and to have access to opportunities that were once denied. This bill doesn't protect fairness—it enshrines discrimination into law. As a teacher, I see the impact on students when they are singled out and excluded. It causes lasting harm. Every student deserves the chance to compete, grow, and be seen for who they are. 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