

Dear Committee Member,

I am testifying for the passage of LD1134. I would like to express my concern and disagreement regarding the participation of men in women's sports. This is an issue that I believe warrants careful consideration and thoughtful discussion.

First and foremost, the primary reason for my disagreement is rooted in the inherent physical differences between men and women. On average, men possess greater muscle mass, strength, and endurance compared to women. This biological disparity can create an uneven playing field, where women are at a distinct disadvantage when competing against men. The essence of women's sports is to provide a fair and equitable environment where female athletes can showcase their talents and hard work. Allowing men to compete in these spaces undermines this principle and can diminish the achievements of women.

Additionally, the inclusion of men in women's sports can have broader implications on the integrity and perception of these competitions. It can lead to a decrease in participation and interest among female athletes who may feel discouraged or overshadowed by the presence of male competitors. This, in turn, can affect the overall growth and development of women's sports, which have made significant strides in recent years.

Furthermore, it is important to consider the impact on the mental and emotional well-being of female athletes. Competing against individuals who possess distinct physical advantages can lead to feelings of frustration, demotivation, and inadequacy. It can also perpetuate a sense of inequality and injustice within the sporting community, which goes against the values of fairness and inclusivity that we strive to uphold.

I acknowledge that this is a complex and sensitive issue, and I respect that there are diverse perspectives on the matter. However, I firmly believe that preserving the integrity of women's sports and ensuring a level playing field for female athletes should be our priority. We must continue to support and celebrate the achievements of women in sports, and this can only be done by maintaining clear and distinct categories for competition.

I believe that there are only 2 genders, male and female. I am talking about those who were born clearly to either male or female who choose to be identified as their opposite sex. Trans girls, male gender, and trans boys, female gender. I believe the solution is simple, you have the right to participate in any sport at any age, but participation depends on your god given gender. Trans girls participate in male sports and trans boys participate in female sports. It is that simple and this solution doesn't discriminate against women. Why are we only talking about trans girls, males, participating in female sports. We don't talk about trans boys, girls, participating in male sports. Why,

because trans boys cannot compete in male sports for the reasons I explained above, differences in the physical nature between males and females. By allowing trans girls, males, to participate in female sports, it discriminates not only to women, but also to trans boys.

You were elected to office by the people and are supposed to represent the people, not your own personal political agenda. The people in Maine as well as the nation clearly agree that males should not compete in female sports. The latest polling suggests that 80% agree. I believe the number is much higher. I do not know anyone in my social circle who supports males in female sports or does anyone in their social circles. Please represent the people in this matter, I personally do not want my hard-earned tax dollars being spent on frivolous lawsuits when that money can be better spent on the citizens of Maine who are in need.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my thoughts on this issue. I urge you to pass LD1134 and hope that we can engage in a constructive dialogue and work towards solutions that uphold the principles of fairness and equality in sports.

Sincerely,

Gary Keane

Sebec, Maine