Patricia Lowell Waterville LD 1002

Subject: Opposing LD 1002 – Stop Forced Deadnaming and Misgendering in Schools Dear Judiciary Committee Members,

Please vote NO on LD 1002. This bill would force schools to deadname and misgender trans students, a harmful practice that contradicts best practices for supporting youth mental health.

All students deserve to feel safe and respected in their schools. Forcing teachers to misgender students and use names that no longer reflect their identity contributes to increased bullying, depression, and suicidal ideation.

This bill would create hostile environments for trans students and teachers alike. I ask you to stand on the side of compassion, safety, and dignity, and reject LD 1002.

With concern, Patricia A. Lowell Waterville, Maine