



Fred McCann

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**Testimony in Opposition of  
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**

**May 6th, 2025**

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and members of Committee on Judiciary, I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony regarding this legislation. My name is Fred McCann. I'm a resident of Portland and I'm currently serving as Vice President on the Portland Water District Board of Trustees.

First and foremost, this legislation would force transgender students to use restrooms that do not align with their gender identity, potentially putting them at risk of harassment, bullying, and even violence. Forcing transgender students to use facilities that align with their assigned gender at birth, rather than their gender identity, violates their basic rights to privacy and dignity. It also sends a harmful message to these vulnerable students that their experiences and needs are not valued, which can lead to increased isolation, anxiety, and depression.

Moreover, this bill unethically affords unequal rights and consideration to cisgendered students than transgendered students on no basis other than pure animus towards transgender girls and gender non-conforming students. It is unacceptable to deny transgender students access to restrooms that align with their gender identity while upholding the right of cisgender students to use these same facilities. This legislation perpetuates the harmful stereotype that transgender and gender non-conforming individuals pose a threat to others' safety and privacy, which has no basis in reality.

Furthermore, this bill is likely in violation of the Maine Human Rights Act. Enforcement of this bill would require invasive and traumatizing physical examinations of all students, both cisgender and transgender, to police adherence to gender norms. This is not only dehumanizing and degrading but also an unreasonable invasion of privacy.

In conclusion, LD 1704 is discriminatory, harmful, and likely illegal. It does not address any legitimate safety concerns raised by proponents and instead only serves to further marginalize already vulnerable members of our communities. I urge you to oppose this bill and instead focus on creating inclusive policies that uphold the dignity and rights of all Maine students.

Sincerely,

Fred McCann