



Fred McCann

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**Testimony in Opposition of
LD 1432: An Act to Remove Consideration of
Gender Identity from the Maine Human Rights Act**

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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.

I am writing to express my strong opposition to LD 1423. This bill is motivated purely by animus towards transgender and gender non-conforming individuals and is discriminatory in its intent. The Maine Human Rights Act was enacted to ensure that all people can live free from discrimination.

The attempted removal of gender identity from the Act's protections would not only undermine the progress we've made in ensuring equality but also endanger the safety and well-being of transgender and gender non-conforming Mainers.

It is also unclear whether the bill's intent to remove gender identity as a protected class would actually achieve its discriminatory intent, as discrimination against transgender and gender non-conforming individuals is already considered discrimination based on sex and/or sexual orientation.

I believe in upholding the principles of fairness and inclusion that the Maine Human Rights Act stands for. I urge you to reject LD 1432 and instead, commit to strengthening protections for all Mainers.

Sincerely,

Fred McCann