

Anne Callender
Portland
LD 1337

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

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee.

My name is Anne Callender and I am a resident of Portland, and I am writing on behalf of humanity and protecting the most vulnerable.

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

The issues of sports participation are already being handled appropriately by the correct organizations and governing associations to ensure fairness. Changes to Maine law are unnecessary, and help no one.

Anti-trans activists are seeking broad exclusion of a vulnerable group of students with a one-size-fits-all rule even though individuals are different. Some people are using trans athletes as a weapon to further an agenda to roll back civil rights of LGBTQ people, people of color, women, immigrants, and many others.

Trans women in Maine already face serious barriers to accessing appropriate shelter—not to mention disproportionate risks of violence—when they are unhoused. Shelters know how to keep all women safe and have been doing it for years.

Everyone deserves respect and privacy. Don't legalize bigotry and discrimination.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective. I urge you to vote "Ought not to Pass" on these bills. Don't let hate have a home here in Maine.