

Sarah Otterson  
South Paris  
LD 1432

To: The Honorable Ann Carney, The Honorable Amy Kuhn, Co-chairs, and members  
of the Judiciary Committee

From: Sarah Otterson  
South Paris  
May 8, 2025

Dear Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Members of the Judiciary  
Committee,

My name is Sarah Otterson. I live in South Paris. As a retired elementary educator, I am saddened to see all the eight bills that have come before you and that will be discussed in today's public hearing regarding trans people, children, and students. These bills will hurt Maine's schools and communities. Schools must offer a supportive environment where every student can flourish and feel accepted as they are.

I am testifying in opposition of LD 1432 HPO 941 An Act to Remove Consideration of Gender Identity from the Maine Human Rights Act.

This is an attempt to erase protections for trans people by Maine Republicans.

In 2005, Maine voters added Gender Identity to the classes of people protected from discrimination in employment, housing, and education. Gender Identity MUST NOT be removed from the Maine Human Rights Act. Passing this legislation would reward the Federal Government's assertion that Maine is failing to comply with Title IX because the state allows transgender girls to compete in female school sports. This legislation would open the door for further attacks on Maine's civil rights. We must stop the harm that is being done to our trans youth. We must support the rights of trans people.

I urge the Judiciary Committee to vote Ought Not to Pass for LD 1432.  
Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Sarah Otterson