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

Thank you for taking the time to read this testimony. I am writing to express opposition of the anti-trans bills before the committee today. I am a retired teacher, a parent of three adult children, and grandmother of one. Throughout the years, I have witnessed fear and heartache in the lives of transgender people I have known. The soul crushing hostility and discrimination they have had to face on a daily basis is heartbreaking and simply unfair. I keep wondering what is so hard about living by the tenets of “live and let live” and “do unto others as you would have them do unto you?”

If these bans are passed, just how will they be reinforced? By violating the privacy of all women and girls to scrutinize their bodies before allowing them to enter certain areas?

If these bans are passed, will girls and women really feel safer when a bearded, muscular male-identifying person enters their bathrooms because he was assigned female at birth? What would stop a predatory male from pretending to be a biological female to enter their bathrooms? The whole notion of keeping females safer in their bathrooms would actually be turned upside down. They would be less safe.

If these bans are passed, it is all members of the trans community who will suffer unfairly. After all, bills that discriminate against transgender students violate both state and federal constitutional guarantees of equal protection.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with your committee. I urge you to vote “Ought not to Pass” on these bills.

Thank you.