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Camden
LD 233

Dora Lievow, Camden Maine. May 8 2025

I am a retired teacher very familiar with the many ways discrimination hurts Maine kids. In 1973 I co- founded an alternative high school in Camden, now known as Wayfinder, and directed the residential program for 37 years.

My testimony is simple. Not only do all of our kids need to feel safe and supported in their schools, but perhaps more importantly, they need to be taught about equal rights. Those sponsoring bills prohibiting trans kids from participating in sports should be ashamed of themselves. Modeling discrimination is a terrible lesson.

While there are certainly issues about unfair advantages, these issues can be resolved case by case.

Some basketball players are 7 feet tall. Should they be prohibited from competing with classmates who are only 5 and a half feet tall?

Equal rights for trans students are a zero threat to girls or Title 9.