

J. Michael Thalhauser
Brooklin, Maine 04616
May 7, 2025

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

I write this letter today to express my **complete opposition** to LD233, LD868, LD1002, LD1134, LD1704, LD1337, LD1432 and also LD380.

My name is Mike Thalhauser. I live in Brooklin Maine. I am a career biologist, a father, a home owner, a Brooklin Elementary PTF president and current member, and I am part of a community that I love. It is a community that (if these bills were to pass) would be forced by the state of Maine to discriminate, and irreparably harm innocent people that are as much of what I love about my community, as anyone else.

I oppose each one of these bills before you today and ask that you please, vote "ought not to pass" for all of these hurtful and appalling proposed bills, and to vote down any other piece of legislation that comes before you all that similarly aims to attack, dehumanize and harm any segment of our population that has done nothing other than attempt to live their own authentic lives. The Maine residents that would be harmed by these bills are as good as any of us and deserve the same rights that we all do. No one today or ever will provide evidence to the contrary.

The Maine residents of all ages, that would be harmed by this proposed legislation are not limited to the trans community. If we allow any groups of people to be singled out and discriminated against like this (no matter how small and unseen these groups are) we open up the doors for any of us to have our human rights challenged and in fact to lose them.

These proposed bills are so morally wrong. I implore you each to look within yourselves and to rise above scare tactics and misinformation to do what is right. Vote no on all of these proposed bills. Nothing good comes from them. They don't protect anyone from anything other than their own irrational fears of people they don't understand.

Committee members, you are making a very important decision today. You are literally setting our moral course for the state of Maine. Please vote to hold up my community's right to treat people with respect and not discriminate against them. Vote for Mainers that are just trying to be their true selves and live their best lives. That's how we help Maine be its best.

Do the right thing. You know what it is. Vote No on these LD's and send the message that no matter what politics we ascribe to; we will never do something like this.

Thank you for reading these comments and for all of your work on these crucial decisions.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Thalhauser', with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Mike Thalhauser