Mary DiMarco Houlton LD 1432

Testimony in Opposition to LD 1432 An Act to Remove Consideration of Gender Identity from the Maine Human Rights Act

Submitted for the Public Hearing Before the Maine Legislature's Judiciary Committee,

May 8, 2025

I am writing to urge you to oppose LD 1432 and support the human rights of transgender and non-binary people, as well as all people living in Maine. It is important to continue to include transgender people in the Maine Human Rights Act, because as a group, they suffer prejudice, harassment, and sometimes violence for expressing themselves as who they are. Transgender people experience elevated rates of poverty and job discrimination. Human Rights are for people of all ages, colors, body types, and religions. We are increasingly aware of our trans and non-binary neighbors and students in our schools. Human rights should apply to them, as well, as they find the joy of expressing their true identities without fear of discrimination. I am proud to live in a state that encodes those rights and I ask you not to remove them. Thank you for your consideration,

Mary Beth DiMarco, Houlton