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Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn and members of the Maine Legislative Judiciary Committee, I am Mike McClellan and I live in Raymond, Maine. I am a former Maine State Representative who served in the 125, 126 and 127th Maine Sessions. I can not attend the hearings today but I am here to testify online in strong support for Representative Campbell's bill: An Act to Prohibit Biological Males from Participating in School Athletic Programs and Activities Designated for Females When State Funding Is Provided to the School.

The bill's summary states -This bill prohibits a school administrative unit or an elementary school, secondary school or postsecondary educational institution in the State that receives any state funding from allowing a person whose biological sex assigned at birth is male to participate in an athletic program or activity that is designated for females. Maine's 125th Legislature was in 2010 and 2011. Not a long time ago and yet it seems a universe away. To allow men into women's sports, shelters, prisons and even bathrooms would have been unheard of. In fact I remember a boy playing field hockey for Portland High School at some point in that era. He did it on a goof and because there was no boy's equivalent sport. Many were upset with him. He certainly must shake his head today.

There are so many easily defined reasons to separate men and women, boys and girls from ability to strength (safety) and of course, to fairness. This is an issue that transcends party and politics, studies say as many as 80% of the people want men and boys to stay in their lane. By not making this correct, there are many institutions in Maine that are left "leaderless" as they seek to do the right thing. Healthcare professionals, educators and others are stuck waiting for a Maine leader to tell them they can proceed with logic and righteousness.

I do not have much confidence in this legislative majority to do anything but what they want. My personal recourse is to avoid spending money in communities that are electing leaders who do not lead. Know that this will eventually become right and history will laugh at those who could not define a woman. As a conservative, I am proud to stand up for women, to know my side does so. If this is not fixed now, it certainly will be talked about in the next election.