

Kyle Carpentier
New Gloucester, Maine
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Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee today. My name is Kyle Carpentier, I am a resident of New Gloucester and am grateful to consider myself a lifelong Mainer. I come before you to strongly oppose bills LD 233, LD 868, LD 1002, LD 1134, LD 1704, LD 1337, LD 1432, and LD 380. These bills unfairly target transgender individuals by restricting their access to sports, bathrooms, and medically necessary care. These bills do not protect anyone; they harm vulnerable communities and violate fundamental principles of fairness, dignity, and human rights.

Transgender people, like all individuals, deserve equal opportunities to participate fully in society. Denying transgender youth the ability to play sports on a team that aligns with their gender deprives them of the life lessons that athletics offer—teamwork, discipline, confidence, and belonging. No credible scientific evidence suggests that transgender athletes pose a threat to fairness in competition. Instead, banning them fuels exclusion and stigmatization.

Further, preventing transgender individuals from using bathrooms that align with their gender exposes them to discrimination and safety risks. Bathroom bans do not solve any real problems; they only intensify the harassment and marginalization transgender people already face. Everyone deserves privacy, respect, and security in public spaces.

Most troubling of all, restrictions on gender-affirming medical care contradict the recommendations of major medical associations, including the American Medical Association and the American Academy of Pediatrics. Such treatments are lifesaving, evidence-based, and provided with careful oversight from qualified healthcare professionals. Denying access to necessary care puts transgender people—especially youth—at greater risk of anxiety, depression, and self-harm.

Legislating exclusion, denying care, and promoting fear-based policies does not represent the values of fairness or justice. Nor does it represent the Maine I want to live in. I urge this committee to reject these bills and instead champion inclusivity, dignity, and respect for all Mainers—regardless of their gender.

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

Thank you.