

Representative Pugh, and members of the Judiciary Committee:

My name is __Joanne Sterling__. I am a resident of _Peaks Island and am testifying in opposition to LD 1002. I submit this as a member of my Unitarian Universalist faith tradition, which affirms and promotes justice, equity and compassion in human relations and the inherent worth and dignity of every person. I am a member of New Brackett Church and MUUSAN, the Maine UU State Advocacy Network which supports legislation that embodies these values.

- This bill takes away the rights of trans people from changing their names and infringes on their rights. This bill would require schools to refer to a student by the name and gender on their birth certificate, unless a parent gives written permission to use a different name and/or gender, or documents detailing a legal change are provided to a school. This bill would create unnecessary administrative work for teachers.
- I know some trans children on the island and I want them to thrive and know that they are loved and supported in their school and community. This bill unnecessarily call out trans children for political gain and traumatize all trans school children.

I urge you to vote Ought Not to Pass on LD 1002.

Thank you,

Joanne Sterling