

Kara Potter
Washington
LD 868

Kara Potter
Washington, ME
04574

May 7, 2025

Greetings Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee. I am grateful for this opportunity to share my testimony with you.

My name is Kara Potter and I'm writing to ask you to vote AGAINST LD 868: An Act to Ensure Equity and Safety in Athletics, Restrooms, Changing Rooms and Housing at Elementary, Secondary and Postsecondary Schools. Contrary to its name, this bill would ban transgender girls from school sports. It goes further than the other similar bills being introduced this session by also banning trans and non-binary students from using the bathrooms and locker rooms that align with their gender identity.

Bans like this one empower schools to engage in policing adherence to gender norms, which unfairly scrutinizes girls' bodies, and have been shown to affect girls of color even more. These bans will cause fear, distrust, and confusion for students, families, and educators.

Not only that, this ban would likely be enforced in ways that blatantly violate the privacy of all Maine women and girls.

We must continue to protect each and every Mainer's civil rights - especially in this moment when many at the federal level, and here in our own state, are threatening to take them away. I hope you'll vote "Ought Not to Pass" on LD 868 and allow this bill to die in committee.

Thank you for your time.