

Amanda Scarpone  
Poland  
LD 380

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Poland, Maine  
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To Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn and Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee Judiciary:

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee. My name is Amanda Scarpone, I am a resident of Poland, Maine, and I am a public health professional who works in the non-profit and philanthropy field. I am writing to you today in opposition of LD 380.

The viewpoint that transgender rights threaten the rights of women and the progress that 'feminists' have made in history has often come up surrounding our trans Mainer community. As a feminist, I strongly reject this notion and condemn this reasoning for withholding protections from our trans Mainers. This view pits women against each other through the belief that equality for some takes away from equality for others. This is not how equality works—it is not a pie in which as one slice is consumed, the pie gets smaller for others. As Kimberlé Crenshaw, American lawyer and civil rights advocate explains, "all inequality is not created equal". Our transgender community is already marginalized and discriminated against, and bills like this would only further disregard their humanity. Now is the time to speak up, advocate for, and protect our transgender community, who are the target of politically motivated culture wars and whose livelihoods are truly under threat. I urge you to do just that.

Respectfully,  
Amanda Scarpone