

Kathy Strand
Portland
LD 1337

I am writing as a person of faith and indeed, as an active church member most of my life. Since moving to Maine 15 years ago (to marry a Mainer with deep roots in the state), I've been active in Woodfords Congregational Church and since 2015, Hope Gateway Church in Portland. I strongly urge the Committee to vote OUGHT NOT TO PASS on LD 1337 and LD 1452.

The Maine Human Rights Act adopted protections for gender identity in 2005. The inclusive language of this Act mirrors the teachings and actions of Jesus – all are invited to his table.

As a person of faith, what is clear from LD 1337 and LD 1452 is their overreach that dehumanizes, that ostracizes, that stokes fear, ignorance and harm in order to score political power points. As a Christian, what an anathema to what I hold as good and true.

Thank you for this opportunity to urge you to vote OUGHT NOT TO PASS on each of these bills.