

Hannah Morris
Falmouth
LD 233

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Falmouth, Maine
May 8, 2025

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee, thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee.

My name is Hannah Morris, I'm a resident of Falmouth, and I am writing in opposition of the bills before the committee today.

As a concerned parent, I believe that these bills will harm Maine schools and communities. LGBTQ+ children should be protected and welcomed in all school environments. They should not fear retribution from the administrators, faculty, or other students because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. We know that the school environment benefits from more children participating in extra curricular activities, and we know that participating in sports helps children build perseverance, confidence, and teamwork skills. Our goals as a community should be to create more opportunities for children to participate in sports and other activities, not to restrict access and put up barriers. These bans would subject any girl who is deemed too tall, or too strong, or not feminine enough to invasive and traumatizing checks to ensure they are playing on the right team or using the right facilities. This is gross overreach and will embolden bystanders and other community members to harass and bully children. Members of the Committee, I think we can all agree that school activities and sports should be as fair and safe as possible for every student. I believe that must also include trans students. Thank you for your consideration.