



The American College of  
Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE PHYSICIANS

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Chair, Maine Section of the American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists

May 8, 2025

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and the Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee

My name is Shannon Carr and I serve as the Chair of the Maine Section of the American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists (ACOG), which is representative of our national organization. Thank you for your consideration of these matters that deeply affect the health and well-being of many Maine families.

The Maine Section of ACOG writes today in opposition to the bills presented today, the objective of which are to strip away the privacy and dignity of and ultimately erode the health and security of LGBTQIA citizens and patients, particularly transgender patients here in Maine. This raft of oppressive bills - LD 233, LD 868, LD 1002, LD 1134, LD 1704, LD 1337, LD 1432, and LD 380 - would have devastating consequences for Mainers who should feel free and safe to live authentically in their communities.

As an organization of medical professionals, ACOG recognizes the harm that enhanced surveillance such as that proposed by these bills will cause to our patients. The bills focused on surveilling the bodies of Maine's youth in school athletic programs will promote bullying, harassment, and invasion of a child's bodily autonomy, and thus cause significant psychological, and perhaps physical trauma. Unhoused transwomen, who already face a disproportionate risk of violence, will be placed in the crosshairs of additional substantial risk under LD 1337. Additionally, these bills, which are largely in service of appeasing and propagating an oppressive national political ideology and agenda, are in conflict with existing protections provided by both federal and state law. Evidence-based, lifesaving and necessary healthcare should never be at the mercy of political ideology and should remain in the purview of patient-provider confidentiality.

ACOG represents more than 60,000 physicians and partners dedicated to advancing the health of our gender diverse communities. ACOG maintains the highest standards of clinical practice and continuing education of its members, strongly advocates for equitable,

exceptional, and respectful care, and increases awareness among its members and the public of critical issues facing patients and their families and communities.

ACOG is committed to ensuring all individuals can access high quality, respectful, equitable medical care, regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation. ACOG supports efforts to affirm and uplift the civil, human, and reproductive rights of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual (LGBTQIA) communities and opposes laws and regulations that discriminate against or otherwise marginalize, stigmatize and harm these people. For these reasons, the Maine Section of ACOG asks that you oppose attacks on Maine's LGBTQIA community and our young citizens and vote "Ought Not to Pass" on LD 233, LD 868, LD 1002, LD 1134, LD 1704, LD 1337, LD 1432, and LD 380.

Respectfully submitted,  
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Chair Maine Section ACOG