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LD 1134

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony. I'm testifying as one of the co-leaders of the teen group at Temple Beth El in Portland. I am testifying in opposition to the bills before the committee today.

I try to foster a welcoming and inclusive space at the teen group and the students will openly speak about bullying, harassment, and microaggressions that they face in school - for their many intersecting identities, Jewish and otherwise.

Bullying in school is one of the most pressing issues that teens face today. Because of that, I think it is unconscionable for our legislature to consider a ban that would empower and embolden bullies who will be able to harass girls playing sports by accusing them of being trans. Our legislature should focus on reducing bullying, not increasing it.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee. I urge you to vote "Ought not to pass" on this bill and all bills being considered today.