

Karen Wyman
Hallowell
LD 233

Testimony of Karen Wyman of Hallowell, Maine
May 8, 2025

In Opposition to LD 233: An Act to Prohibit Biological Males from Participating in School Athletic Programs and Activities Designated for Females When State Funding Is Provided to the School

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee. Thank you for your attention to this bill and my testimony. My name is Karen Wyman, and I'm a resident of Hallowell. I write in strong opposition to LD 233 which would ban any school that receives state funding from allowing transgender girls to participate in school sports. I was born and raised here in Maine, and I am proud to call Maine home as an adult member of the LGBTQIA+ communities.

Children should be permitted and supported to explore their interests in ways that support the person they are in the process of becoming. It is false to suggest that children are threats to one another based on their gender identity. Children get this. They say they want to play with their friends; they support their classmates; and they just want to get on with the business of childhood: learning, playing, and growing. To do that, they need opportunities, like sports, where they can be fully themselves. Schools should not have to choose between inclusive policies and practices and essential state funding. This is an unnecessary, unethical, and unfair choice to force on schools.

Please do the right thing and stand in solidarity with Maine's youth of all genders to say no to LD 233. Protect trans youth. Give them a chance to become adults.

Sincerely,
Karen Wyman