

Sarae Pacetta  
Portland  
LD 1704

My name is Sarae Pacetta, and I'm the parent of a transgender 17 year old. I'm writing against LD1134.

We moved to Maine from Ohio to have a place where our nonbinary transgender child could thrive. A school policy that protects transgender students' rights to use the bathroom that fits their gender identity is critical. When we lived in Ohio my child was targeted and bullied, and their safety was threatened, in the bathroom. It was a frightening place for them. They have always felt safe here, and I want that physical and emotional safety for all transgender kids.

Trans children and teenagers are not predators, and they are not in bathrooms and locker rooms to make anyone else uncomfortable or harm anyone. They are the ones who are uncomfortable and do anything they can to stay out of the spotlight. There is no threat.

Thank you for your consideration, and I hope you help protect this vulnerable population in Maine.