

Mary Fallon
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LD 1337

Today, I wish to testify in favor of the proposed changes outlined in LD 1337. My reasons in support of this change to current law is that gender identity and biological gender are two very different realities. Women are watching their private spaces and safety erode right before their eyes as biological males, identifying as women, invade public bathrooms, dressing rooms and even women's shelters. These situations put biological women, especially young women and girls at risk. Private spaces provide more than just privacy, they offer protection from unwanted attention, the freedom attend to private needs, and public safety. Single-sex facilities like toilets and shelters ensure that a biological woman can be safe from uninvited attention, harassment and even assault. Women should not have to give up their private spaces nor share sheltering space to entertain the fantasies of biological men. If men want to pretend to be women that is their own affair. Having them claim women's bathrooms, dressing rooms or entrance into shelters as open to them puts women and girls at risk. If biological males need entrance into these private places for validation or affirmation then they pose an even greater danger.