Robert Klein Pittsfield LD 233 Robert Klein Pittsfield, Maine 8 May 2025

Dear Committee Members,

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony. My name is Robert Klein and I am a resident of Pittsfield and a mentor of a high school robotics team. I am writing to oppose this bill.

While I am not transgender myself, I have many transgender friends and students. I see the struggles they go through just trying to live an average life. Their medication costs money, they have to go to the doctors often for check ins, and some just aren't comfortable in their own skin. These are added stresses they go through their whole life, on top of what everyone else has to deal with.

The targets that are being painted on transgender people are not only unnecessary, but wrong. This fear mongering is just an attempt to divide people, when the reality is that we all need to come together to make the world a better place. When I was growing up, I was taught to "treat others how you want to be treated", and I can't imagine the people sponsoring this bill want to be treated the way they are treating transgender people.

Transgender people are just average people. They are not wrong or evil for existing. I encourage you to please allow them to continue to exist in peace, and vote against this bill. Thank you again for your time.