Gary Sylvester Durham, ME LD 1432

I would like to take a brief moment to speak as strongly and clearly as possible against this bill. I am a proud father of a child who does not identify with their gender assigned at birth. They are a "Trans kid." This has been a challenging process for all involved, but this process has also been one full of love and support.

We are incredibly fortunate to have the support of the school district--Support we

might not have had if LD 1432 were in place.

Many folks speak of the appeal of "less government". One key function of government however is to ensure the safety of those most vulnerable in our society. Unfortunately, right now the Trans population is an extremely easy target for those trying to score political points. I encourage you to remember that this is not label, a demographic, rather these are people.

I bring this to you for consideration from the deepest part of my heart, as a father, as a Citizen of Maine, as a Christian who has raised my children in the church. We as a people are called to do well by these wonderful people who are part of our society. Thank you.