

Marie Camillo Reimensnyder
New Gloucester
LD 868

Marie Camillo Reimensnyder
New Gloucester, Maine 04260
May 8, 2025

Re: Opposition to LD 233, LD 868, LD 1002, LD 1134, LD 1704, LD 1337, LD 1432, and LD 380

Dear Members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Marie and I live in New Gloucester. I am a mother, grandmother, and retired early childhood and outdoor education teacher. I am writing with deep concern and strong opposition to the bills before the committee today: LD 233, LD 868, LD 1002, LD 1134, LD 1704, LD 1337, LD 1432, and LD 380

My heart breaks that we are experiencing such bitterness and hatred in our state and country towards.

As a teacher my job was to foster kindness, compassion, understanding, and an appreciation of differences. It was to create a learning environment in a community where children could be their authentic selves and feel seen, heard, and valued for who they were. The fact that as a state and country we are showing hostility towards some of our children and viewing them as less valuable, less human, less worthy-is incomprehensible.

These bills do not promote inclusion, compassion, and fairness that we foster in our schools and that is core to Maine values. These bills promote the opposite-fear, division and discrimination-and would hurt Maine schools, our students and our communities. We need inclusion not discrimination. We need understanding and compassion.

Maine must stand up against the national political agenda interfering with our rights to make our own laws.

^[1]_{SEP} Bills that discriminate against transgender students violate both state and federal constitutional guarantees of equal protection:^[1]_{SEP}

LD 233, LD 868, and LD 1134 are discriminatory on the basis of sex and therefore are not constitutional.

Title IX prohibits sex discrimination and does not require a prohibition on transgender or intersex athletes.

The Maine Human Rights Act adopted protections for gender identity in 2005.

[Specific to LD 380] Repealing Maine's Shield Law would subject Maine's already-strained healthcare infrastructure to out-of-state criminal prosecutions for providing standard-of-care health care as legally allowed in this state. Maine state law has allowed doctors and patients to safely give and receive the care they need, and LD 380 would especially cause great harm to health care providers.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with the committee and express my deep concern for these bills. I urge you to vote against this bills.

Sincerely,

Marie Camillo Reimensnyder
New Gloucester