

Taylor Roberts  
Portland  
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Taylor Roberts, MD  
Portland, Maine  
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Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee, thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee. My name is Taylor Roberts and I am a resident of Portland, where I work as an Internal Medicine physician. I represent myself. I am writing in opposition of the bills before the committee today.

As a physician, I strongly oppose legislative efforts that target transgender youth—whether by banning their participation in school sports or restricting access to gender-affirming care. These bills are not rooted in medical evidence, but in fear and misinformation that harm young people—particularly those who are already at high risk for mental health challenges.

Transgender youth already face disproportionate rates of anxiety, depression, and suicide. Affirming their identities—including through access to school sports and evidence-based medical care—dramatically improves mental health outcomes and saves lives. Denying them these supports is not protecting children; it is isolating them.

Medical and psychological organizations, including the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Medical Association, oppose these discriminatory policies. They recognize that every child deserves the same opportunities to learn, grow, and thrive—on and off the field. Blanket bans based on gender identity ignore the diversity of body types, athletic ability, and development present in all youth.

These bills are not about safety or fairness—they are about control and exclusion. Those seeking to restrict transathlete participation in sports are either motivated by an unsubstantiated belief that transgirls negatively impact competitive integrity, or they use this facade to advance a more menacing agenda: to stigmatize and de-legitimize the existence of transpeople.

As a physician, I have a duty to advocate for the well-being of all children. Excluding transgirls from school sports and installing barriers to gender affirming care undermines inclusion, fosters stigma, and contradicts both medical guidance and basic human decency. The Maine legislature must support policies that affirm and protect, not alienate and punish.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee. I urge you to vote “Ought not to Pass” on these bills. Thank you!