

Nic Palestini
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LD 1337

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am writing in opposition to bill LD 1337. Transgender people represent less than 1% of the US population and, as this bill is being introduced, one of the most persecuted. The incidence of violent acts against transgender people, women in particular, is higher than that of cis women and men. As a vulnerable population it is these people that we should be seeking to protect, not exclude. I have experienced sexual abuse and having safe places and people to turn to is what ultimately saved me. Without those spaces I would have become a statistic myself. The amendments to Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §4553, sub-§8 and Sec. 4. 5 MRSA §4602, sub-§5 do not adequately address enforcement and create unnecessary burdens on an already marginalize group of people.

Due to the unnecessary cruelty in bill LD 1337, I urge you to vote 'Ought not to Pass'. Thank you!