

May 7, 2025

To the Honorable Senators and Representatives of the Judiciary Committee of the Maine Legislature:

My name is Tony Ramsey, of New Sharon, Maine.

I have been a coach of elementary and middle school age children for baseball, soccer, and cross-country skiing over the last 30+ years. The team I coach now is X-C skiing, competitions are separated by male and female gender. While our younger aged teams have not had transgender athletes, there has been male trans inclusion into the MPA high school competitions. There is clear evidence that male development influenced by testosterone enhances performance in athletics. No hormone treatment can turn off the historical physical development of the male body, even if blockers are used to reduce current testosterone levels. Additionally, the introduction of hormone use into athletics runs counter to the effort at every level to promote and enforce drug-free competitions. I have personally witnessed a state championship competition where one of Maine's elite athletes was bumped off the podium by a male skiing in the women's event. Regardless of his self-identification, he was indisputably male. And in reality, his inclusion in the women's event would have displaced female competitors even if it hadn't been the podium result.

I have spoken with multiple coaches, both male and female, and they all agree that this is not a basis for fair competition... but they ALL have said they cannot voice their opinion for fear of reprisal! This is tragic. It may be noble to attempt to provide an all-inclusive approach to sports, but there is no way to have it be fair. The promotion of women's sports over the last 50 years via Title IX is premised on fairness.

Now, the Legislature has an opportunity to ensure fairness in women's sports.

Just be sure of this: you can choose INCLUSION or you can choose FAIRNESS, but YOU CANNOT HAVE BOTH, they are mutually exclusive.

Please support the passage of:

LD 1134 - An Act to Prohibit Males from Participating in Female Sports or Using Female Facilities

Thank you.

Tony Ramsey
NEW SHARON
LD 1134

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