Heather A Ouellette 125 Summer St Lisbon Falls ME, 04252 <u>h.a.ouellette42@gmail.com</u> May 8th 2025

This written testimony is in opposition to bills LD 233, LD 868, LD 1002, LD 1134, LD 1704, LD 1337, LD 1432, LD 380.

At what point do we accept that these bills targeting children are just adults using them as pawns to justify their own insecurities. These bills send a distorted message to children that trans people, especially trans children who want to play sports, are a threat. What that threat is, no one can actually define, however it is made clear it starts on a playing field.

So for bills LD 233, LD 868, LD 1002, LD 1134, LD 1704 I have questions: Where does the discrimination stop? What precautions are we taking to actually protect children from actual dangers?

- 1) How will the bathroom, locker room, and facility rules be enforced?
 - a) Will there be an established genital checkpoint at the beginning of the school year, will each child be marked in some way to keep track?
 - b) Will all visitors during the school day, at school events, at sporting events, be subject to gential checks to be on school grounds? This includes parents, siblings, grandparents, children of visiting sports teams, any emergency staff, police officers, etc.
 - c) Will these checks be extended to events sponsored by the school but not on school grounds, for example at a movie theater, sports stadium, museum, roller rink, or public park? Will the general public be checked while students are present?
 - d) Will teachers, aids, maintenance staff, office staff, visiting speakers, cafeteria staff, all personnel on school grounds be subjected to these checks. Will they have to be marked in some way while on school grounds?
- 2) Who will be this genital checker?
 - a) Will there have to be a male and a female checker?
 - b) What department of the school will these positions fall under?
 - c) What will be the salary for this position?
 - d) Will persons be denied access to a restroom if the checker of their gender is not available?
 - e) Who would be their direct supervisor, and would they also be present during all the required checking events?
 - f) What happens if the checker is inappropriate with a person they are checking?

- 3) Where does it stop?
 - a) Do we start segregation lunch tables?
 - b) Do we segregate buses, classes?
 - c) Should children not be allowed to speak to each other?

For bills LD 233, LD 868, LD 1002, LD 1134, LD 1704 I have comments:

These bills force persons who are mandated reporters to violate that code by outing students, due to the fact that a student's gender would only be what they say it is, unless a faculty, who has seen their birth certificate, outs them to faculty and students. Thus putting that child in potential risk of danger, from adults and possibly other children.

These bills violate themselves, by discriminating and creating an unsafe space for transgender children, who regardless of gender, are still in fact children.

Do you realize the only message you are sending children is that the sole basis for building relationships, interactions, and understanding self worth is what's between their and everyone else's legs?

In reference to LD 1337, LD 1432, LD 380 I have comments:

Title IX has never actually been effective in "protecting" and providing equality to female athletes so let's just be honest and admit that female athletes will still be under funded, under promoted, and underpaid. You're focused on the wrong changes.

"Gender Identity" actually applies to all humans. By taking that protection out of the Human Rights Act, you are saying I can not hire someone or provide a service for someone solely based on if I oppose their gender. Example: I can say my business is now a women's only club, because there's now no laws prohibiting me from discriminating against person's I perceive to be male.

Let doctors and patients make decisions about their own treatments and medical journeys. You are not doctors, you are not these people in their lives in their journeys, so stay out of it. You can easily solve your transgender insecurities on the athletic field, by allowing transgender children the proper care and treatments they need. A child undergoing proper hormone treatment would be at correct hormone levels to not have any "advantage" over other children in sports.