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LD 868

Good morning to the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Holly Swartz, I live in Union. I am asking you to support all of the bills regarding biological female-only sports and facilities protections. I have a masters degree in Higher Education and I taught in the social justice field for multiple universities including Northeastern University, James Madison University and Providence College; and I worked for METS at Umaine and for Colby College as a Career Counselor. I have raised 4 boys over the past 20 years.

I am speaking today in support of biological-birth girls-only and boys-only sports and locker rooms and bathrooms, with support for co-ed sports and a co-ed bathroom. This is the answer for common ground. A biological male should not be allowed in a girls locker room nor should a biological female be boys will be the top winners of girls sports and girls will no longer exist as champions - girls lose in so manyThe Republican Party pioneered the right of women to vote and was consistent in its support throughout the long campaign, almost 100 years, for acceptance. It was the first major party to advocate allowed in a boys locker room; girls should not have to see or be seen by a boy while changing or in compromised positions. Girls should not work all of their high school days at a sport, just to find a biological male winning against them in the years when they are finally top of their sport; girls should not feel unsafe in a sport where common ground is supposed to be found and enjoyed. If this continues, equal rights for women and the principle of equal pay for equal work. The Women's Rights Convention ways, including financially, opportunity, self-worth and possible physical, emotional and mental damage. And how does this promote good relations with trans-people when girls are so threatened? And why can't a boy who wants be called a girls name still compete with the boys?

Where we are as a country today is a direct result of our past. More than a century ago, a monumental shift occurred in our Constitution when the 19th amendment was finally passed due to the relentless work of the Republican party – who by the way also were the arbiters for the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments being passed. And as the Democrat Party continues to oppress the citizens of Maine today, it only serves to show people how they are actually against the civil rights of most people. I understand that this fight may go on for some time, so I am here to remind you of our tenacity:

The Republican Party pioneered the right of women to vote and was consistent in its support throughout the long campaign, almost 100 years, for acceptance. It was the first major party to advocate equal rights for women and the principle of equal pay for equal work. The Women's Rights Convention ways, including financially, opportunity, self-worth and possible physical, emotional and mental damage. And how does this promote good relations with trans-people when girls are so threatened? And why can't a boy who wants be called a girls name still compete with the boys? held in N.Y. in 1848, was the beginning of the women's suffrage movement in the United States. By 1870, the Massachusetts Republican State Convention had seated two women. Wyoming, the state that pioneered women's suffrage, sent two women to the 1892 Republican Convention. This was the first time women were seated at a Republican National Convention. J. Ellen Foster, chair of the Women's Republican Association is quoted as saying, "We are here to help you, and we are here to stay." According to the Republican National Convention, "Susan B. Anthony, a Republican from California, introduced the 19th Amendment in 1878. This was defeated four times by a Democrat-controlled Senate. When the Republican Party regained control of Congress in 1919, the Equal Suffrage Amendment finally passed on May 21, 1919, by a vote of 304 to 89. In all, over 200 Republicans voted in favor of the 19th Amendment, while only 102 Democrats voted alongside them. Subsequently, it passed the Senate by a vote of 56 to 25; the split among Democrats and Republicans was notable: eighty-two percent of Republicans voted in favor of the amendment while only forty-one percent of their Democrat colleagues concurred."

What was the secondary result of the shock people had that Democrats would not support womens rights? The result was a strong win for Republicans on the federal level, which I contend we once again just experienced. A majority of people do not want biological boys in girls private areas and sports. As Congresswoman Virginia Foxx is quoted, "We owe it to the men and women who fought to safeguard women's rights, and we would be doing them a tremendous disservice if we let their work become deviated from the truth... History is the ultimate arbiter of who deserves credit for resolving the significant events that have help shape our country." So again, as I quoted Ms. Foster before, "We (women) are here to help, and we (women) are here to stay."