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I look out into the world and fail to see the space in which trans people do not need protecting. In the grand scheme, they probably need the most protecting. If 1/3 of young people with blue eyes attempted suicide, would we not think that was a cause for concern? If blue-eyed youths were being kicked out of their homes at a high rate and wound up homeless and in sex work to provide for themselves, would we not say they were facing harmful discrimination? If people with blue eyes were unable to carefree walk down the street because they didn't know if someone coming from the other direction was going to be so appalled by their existence they yelled at them, punched them, stabbed them, shot them, raped them would the general population not be bending over backwards to make changes to prevent this? If people were saying we won't hire you because you're blue-eyed. We won't rent to you because you're blue-eyed. We won't let you in our schools because you're blue-eyed. You cannot join our club because you're blue-eyed. Your kids aren't welcome here because they're blue-eyed. We think you should die because you're blue-eyed. We shouldn't have to share our spaces with people because they're blue-eyed. Are we not appalled for this hypothetical experience of the blue-eyed people? And at the end of the day, these things are not happening the blue-eyed people, they are in fact happening the trans people. Does that not warrant the simple act of having on paper that we are not okay with this discrimination? What do we gain from striking gender identity for the Maine Human Rights Act? Do we get to go backwards in time and return to a place where bigotry was okay? Is that what we want? I don't want to be bigoted and I don't want to live in a state that reversed course to allow bigotry and oppression. No one should want that. The only people who want that are the bigots who believe in their right to protected hate speech and harassment.