

Anne Dunham

Bath, Maine

May 8, 2025

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

Thank you for the opportunity to address the committee. My name is Anne Dunham and I am a resident of Bath, Maine. I am here in opposition to the bills before the committee today.

These bills (LD233, LD 868, LD1002, LD 1134, LD1704, LD 1337, LD 1432, and LD 380) degrade the school, medical, and cultural climate in Maine by singling out a small minority of folks and preventing them from participating in their communities as their full selves. Some of these bills claim to be protective of women and girls. These laws will sanction invasive checks, embolden harassment, and fail to address far more substantive concerns such as the rape kit backlog and domestic violence.

The consequences of these laws will reliably increase the sensation of hostility toward transgender people. This population already experiences a suicide rate of eight times the overall US population. (Haas, Ann P., et al. *Suicide Attempts among Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Adults: FINDINGS OF THE NATIONAL TRANSGENDER DISCRIMINATION SURVEY*. The Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law, 2014. *JSTOR*, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep34996>. Accessed 8 May 2025.)

Please leave these bills to history's footnotes and move on to issues that will improve the state for its citizens vice feeding the fires of a distracting culture war. I thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee. I urge you to vote "Ought not to Pass" on these bills. Thank you.

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