

John Larson
Saco
LD 1704

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee. My name is John Larson III, I am a resident of Saco. I write in opposition of the bills before the committee today. As a citizen of this state, I grow increasingly concerned how much time is being wasted discussing which kids can and which kids cannot play games. Growing up should be a time of discovering who you are. Not being told who you cannot be. If a child wants to discover if they are an athlete, we should let them. If a child wants to discover if they are not the gender they were assigned at birth, we should let them. I have no children, but many of my friends do whom I love as my own. One of them is trans. Already in his short life, he has been suicidal. This world would be a much dimmer place had his demons won out that day. Bills like this make those demons stronger. I vehemently oppose any bill that says my friends' children cannot exist. If we keep introducing legislature like this, it is true. These children will no longer exist, but that is because they will no longer be alive. 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!