

Daniel  
RICHMOND  
LD 1432

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee my name is Daniel C. and I am a resident of Richmond. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today.

I urge you to vote No on LD1432 An Act to Remove Consideration of Gender Identity from the Maine Human Rights Act.

It is clear to me that transgender people need the very protections afforded by explicit inclusion in the Maine Human Rights Act as adopted in 2005 given the current federal government's assault on the Transgender community. Efforts that seek to restrict access to healthcare, limit participation in sports and educational programs, and deny their right to enjoy the same benefits and privileges of other members of our society.

Rejecting this bill would send a signal that Maine is unwilling to equivocate in its commitment to protecting all her citizens. Explicitly naming a marginalized or vulnerable population doesn't expand rights. It acknowledges the contemporary and historical wrongs done to individuals based on their membership in a marginalized class. A class that is now unambiguously recognized and protected.

Please continue to protect all Mainer's right to full participation in our society as they are.

Thank you,  
Daniel