

Anne Wilder
New Gloucester
LD 868

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

I appreciate both the opportunity to participate in our government and in particular this hearing, thank you for reading my testimony.

My name is Anne Wilder and I live in New Gloucester with my husband and our two daughters (ages 11 and 14). As a parent I oppose the bills (LD 233, LD 868, LD 1002, LD 1134, & LD 1704) before the committee today. These bills are nothing more than an attempt to bully children who are already struggling to exist in a prejudiced world. They seek to keep Maine kids from playing sports they love where they can learn valuable lessons about tenacity and grit; qualities for which Mainers should be well known. Further, these bills would empower fearful adults who want to examine and pass judgement on the bodies of girls and young women.

In addition, these bills would bolster hate, fear, and division in our local communities. This is not the environment I want for my daughters. I would rather they share a locker room with a trans girl over someone who fears a student who is bravely expressing her true identity. I had both of my kids read this letter- Ms. 11 said "YES!" and Ms. 14 said "Fully approve."

Thank you for this opportunity, and for reading my testimony. I hope you will vote "Ought not to Pass" on these bills.

Most sincerely,
Anne Wilder