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LD 1432

I do not support the proposed amendment to remove "gender identity" as a protected category under Maine's Human Rights Act. Although it has been made a divisive issue by those who wish to restrict the rights of women and LGBTQ individuals, a person's gender identity, regardless of whether it is perceived as innate or chosen, should not be permitted to be used as an excuse to exclude any person from employment or public life. To force individuals to conform to any one cultural definition of gender with the threat of legalized discrimination is directly contradictory to the basis of human rights. Also, Maine has a longstanding tradition of "live and let live"--the modern trend of bored busybodies poking their noses into other people's business and trying to dictate how they have to live their private lives is disgraceful.