

Sydney Cotter
Portland, Maine
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Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee. My name is Sydney Cotter, I'm a resident of Portland. I am here today in opposition of the bills before the committee today.

You must oppose LD 1337 because, this bill is blatant discrimination against trans women. Title IX prohibits sex discrimination and does not require a prohibition on transgender or intersex athletes.

These bills strip trans people of their legal protections from discrimination. The Maine Human Rights Act adopted protections for gender identity in 2005. Any attempt to strip Maine's federal funding for protecting trans people is a federal overreach because it is inaccurate about the law and Maine acted in accord with law at all times. Passing this would reward the federal government's bullying tactics and open the door for further attacks on Mainers' civil rights, but it won't make Maine more safe or fair for anyone.