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LD 868 "An Act to Ensure Equity and Safety in Athletics, Restrooms, Changing Rooms and Housing at Elementary, Secondary and Postsecondary Schools"
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary
May 8, 2025

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and member of the joint standing committee on Judiciary:

I am Brad Farrin and I represent Senate District 3. I am proud to be a co-sponsor of LD 868, “An Act to Ensure Equity and Safety in Athletics, Restrooms, Changing Rooms and Housing at Elementary, Secondary and Postsecondary Schools.”

This bill makes sure that in Maine schools—whether they’re elementary, high school, or college—when it comes to sports teams, locker rooms, and bathrooms, we keep things separated based on biological sex due to obvious differences between genders.

Girls’ sports are for girls. Boys’ sports are for boys. If there’s a co-ed team, that’s fantastic, but girls shouldn’t be forced to compete against biological males. It’s not fair, and everybody knows it. It’s about protecting the integrity of girls’ sports and the opportunities they’ve worked so hard for.

The same goes for restrooms and locker rooms. Students should have the basic right to privacy and to feel safe. They shouldn’t be put in uncomfortable or awkward situations where they’re expected to share intimate spaces with the opposite sex. That’s not hateful. That’s not bigotry. That’s basic decency and respect.

LD 868 doesn’t ban anyone from using a restroom. It doesn’t kick anyone off a team. It just says that if a space is meant to be private—like a locker room or a bathroom—it needs to stay private for boys or girls, based on biology. Schools can still offer private or single-use spaces for anyone who needs something different. But we don’t throw out common sense to please a few while ignoring the concerns of many.

I’ve heard from parents and students who are sick of being told to stay quiet when they speak up about this. They’re afraid of being called names or getting in trouble for saying what a lot of people are thinking. This bill gives them a voice and makes it clear that their rights matter too.

We owe it to our women and girls to set clear boundaries and protect fairness, privacy, and safety. That’s why I’m standing behind this bill, and I ask you to do the same.

Thank you, and please vote ought to pass.