

Kristen Chapman  
Sumner  
LD 868

Good afternoon, Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and esteemed members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Kristen Chapman, a resident of Sumner, as well as a School Board Director for my town, however I speak today of my own personal conviction and not in representation of my district.

I urge you all to support LD 868, An Act to Ensure Equity and Safety in Athletics, Restrooms, Changing Rooms and Housing at Elementary, Secondary, and Post Secondary Schools.

I am disturbed that biological females, in speaking up about their discomfort, unease, and fear in entering & using places where privacy should be assured, these girls are instead being shamed.

When biological females speak up, as many have (and will) today, telling the adults around them that they are NOT OKAY disrobing around, showering in the same room as, or using bathroom facilities with biological males, these young ladies are effectively being told, GASLIT, that they are not being compassionate, that the law, MAINE STATE LAW, is against them, and that the adults around them will NOT protect them. The message they hear is shame, SHAME that they cannot place someone else's feelings above their own GUT FEELINGS that they SHOULD BE UNCOMFORTABLE in these situations.

As a college athlete (albeit, not on scholarship) who graduated decades ago from a woman's college that celebrated the true intent of Title IX, I will stand up for, and acknowledge, these young girls, these teenage young ladies, and these biological women, "XX women".... that there is NOTHING WRONG WITH SAYING "NO!" to boys, teenage males, "XY men" being in their intimate spaces.

I urge you to vote "OUGHT TO PASS" LD 868.