

Elizabeth Jackson
Falmouth
LD 2239

Dear Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn and Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary:

My name is Elizabeth Jackson, I'm a resident of Falmouth, and I am here on behalf of those who believe in supporting policies that promote inclusion, dignity, fairness, respect and basic human rights. I am strongly opposed to the proposed ballot measure, LD 2239.

The proposed ballot measure is an extreme, blanket ban that doesn't fit in Maine communities. The proposal's language is a vague, poorly defined, "one-size-fits all" approach that would be difficult and expensive for schools to implement, likely causing more chaos and distraction for students, and opens huge litigation risks for schools.

Our energy and resources should be spent on addressing inequalities in sports, including lack of funding and unequal access to facilities. But this measure would make schools use their scarce resources on requirements like having staff check ALL student's birth certificates in order to use the bathroom.

Our state laws must protect freedom and fairness: We cannot open the door to laws and government policing or controlling our bodies. This proposal would repeal our foundational Maine Human Rights Act and leave Mainers with fewer civil rights protections.

This proposal was funded entirely by one out-of-state billionaire in order to influence the 2026 midterm elections. Maine won't sell our kids and our democracy to the highest bidder.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee.

Respectfully,
Elizabeth