

Robin Sanford
Lisbon Falls
LD 2239

Thank you, members of the committee, for taking written testimony. My name is Robin Sanford, I grew up in Maine, left the state for college, and have returned to my home state. I live in Lisbon Falls.

I am opposed to the proposed ballot measure, LD 2239.

I feel strongly that discriminating against any of our youth, including trans youth, is wrong.

There are inequalities in sports – those primarily stem from funding and facilities. Coaches of girls sports are paid less. The teams use the “back-up” facilities and fields. The teams get less support. Those inequalities are what are affecting the experience of students on girls’ sports teams. This bill does nothing to solve those issues.

Furthermore, adding the burden of policing bathrooms in our schools to the heavy workload that our already overworked and underpaid school employees are managing is cruel. The logistics and documentation needed for this is a burden and a cost that we do not need. This bill is vaguely written and broad and confusing, so implementing it will be costly.

A lot of money is being spent on this ballot initiative, and it’s all coming from people who don’t live here and who don’t care about our communities and our kids. I urge you to question why these groups are targeting a very small percentage of our population. Why do they want you focused on this manufactured issue? What are they hiding? Why do they want us to hate each other?

This bill is terrible, and should not become law. We should not be rolling back equal rights in Maine.