

March 3, 2025

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and members of the Joint Standing Judiciary Committee:

My name is Annie Kiermaier. I am a resident of Rockport. I am testifying in support of LD 537. I submit these remarks as a member of the First Universalist Church in Rockland, a congregation of the Unitarian Universalist faith tradition, which affirms and promotes justice, equity and compassion in human relations, and the inherent worth and dignity of every person. I support the Maine UU State Advocacy Network (MUUSAN), which links Maine's 26 UU congregations in working for legislation that embodies those values.

I believe LD 537 should become law because:

- LD 537 will protect **all** Maine minors from doxing. Our children and youth deserve to be safe. It is our job as Maine adults to keep our children safe.
- I have known many Maine children and youth, both as a mother and as an LCSW working with children. Doxing would be a devastating experience for any of them.
- The fear of doxing is real for all Maine minors. Minors who learn that a peer has been the victim of doxing may fear that they will be next. So doxing creates fear for all minors.
- Doxing can be used against vulnerable minors who are perceived to be different and therefore "less than:" those with disabilities, those who live in poverty, trans people, immigrants and refugees, people of color.
- The Maine legislature and all Mainers need to send a clear message that we cherish and support all children and youth and will do all we can to keep them safe from harm.

For all these reasons, we need to protect all Maine children and youth. I urge you to vote Ought to Pass on LD 537.

Thank you,
Annie Kiermaier
P.O. Box 308
West Rockport ME 04865