

My name is Emily Jayne. I am resident of Kennebec County. Passing LD260 solidifies equal rights for ALL citizens of Maine, within our constitution. True freedom is sovereignty of human rights for everyone. When the rights of one individual are diminished, all of our rights are threatened. Over 20 other states have already added this amendment to their constitution. This bill is important to me as a queer, non-binary, atheist. But it is just as important to my conservative, Christian family. Equal rights are not a left vs right issue. We all have the desire to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Discrimination based on sex, race, gender orientation, gender expression, religion, physical disability, mental disability, or ancestry is simply unacceptable. No one is born with hate for another person. It is taught. If you can learn to hate, you can be taught to love. It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognize, accept, and celebrate those differences that divides us. There is no time like the present. You all have a say in what happens in this state. I ask you to look within yourselves, find the empathy, and kindness that intertwines our humanity. I ask you to pass the Maine Inclusive Equal Rights Amendment Bill.

Thank you for your time.

Feel free to reach out-

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