

TO: The Honorable Anne Carney, Senate Chair
The Honorable Amy Kuhn, House Chair
Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary

DATE: May 8, 2025

RE: LDs 233, 868, 1002, 1134, and 1704

Dear Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee;

My name is Dawn Walls. I am from the town of Unity. I am testifying in opposition to the bills before the committee today. (LDs 233, 868, 1002, 1134, and 1704). I *strongly* oppose these bills for the following reasons:

All of the bills being put forth today could accurately be called trans bans. They come in slightly differing forms, but that is what they all seek to do: ban trans students and trans people from participating equally and fully in our communities – their communities.

I find it a particular insult that some of these bills are proposed as "protecting women and girls". As a woman, I do not feel safer knowing that trans women are being oppressed. In fact, it is far more likely for a trans woman to be the victim of violence than to commit violence against anyone. As a woman, I have never felt threatened by any trans person. As a woman, I do feel threatened when legislations are proposed that seek to remove the equal protections and human rights of any of our citizens. I care about the rights of all women and girls, which also means trans women and girls. Trans rights are human rights.

We know this legislation is not about protecting women and girls, it isn't even about trans kids in sports: it is an attack on all transgender people. These bills will not make anyone safer. They will actually create more harms for women and girls, trans or not. Can you imagine the horror of being challenged to "prove" your gender? What kind of personal invasions or humiliations will that lead to? If someone doesn't think I look or act "feminine enough" will they think they have a right to challenge me and question me? What is under my skirt is no one's business. What is in my pants is no one's business.

I find the premis all these bills are based on to be absolutely ludicrous and extremely offensive. They are hateful, hurtful, and frightening. They are dangerous. This is a road we should not even consider going down.

Therefore, I *strongly* urge you to vote "Ought not to Pass" on all of these bills. Thank you for your time and the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee.