

Abby Borron
Rockport, Maine
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Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. My name is Abby Borron and I live in Rockport. I'm here today to speak in strong opposition to LD 233, LD 868, LD 1002, LD 1134, and LD 1704: all bills that target trans youth by restricting their access to sports and bathrooms in schools.

As a member of the LGBTQ+ community with both trans friends and family, I know how much harm these bills can cause. I also speak as someone who grew up in Maine and played school sports for many years. I understand the value that sports participation brings to your life: sports helped me gain confidence, make friendships, learn teamwork, and find a sense of belonging. Every kid deserves those things. Trans kids deserve those things.

These bills don't protect anyone; they only target kids who are already vulnerable. Sports bans don't address real issues in girls' athletics; they create a culture of suspicion where any girl who doesn't fit a narrow expectation risks being questioned or excluded. Bathroom bans do the same: forcing kids to navigate fear and humiliation just to meet a basic human need.

There are already systems in place to ensure fairness and safety in school sports and facilities. Politicians who push harmful rhetoric shouldn't be a part of those systems.

I urge you to vote "Ought Not to Pass" on these bills. In a world that too often tells LGBTQ+ youth they don't belong, let's show Maine kids that they are valued and protected for who they are. Thank you for your time and your commitment to all Maine students.