

**Elizabeth Kamphausen-Doan  
Phippsburg, Maine  
May 8, 2025**

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee.

My name is Elizabeth Kamphausen-Doan and I live in Phippsburg, Maine. I am a person of faith, a member of the Religious Society of Friends, better known as Quakers.

I am here today in opposition to all the bills before the committee, especially LD 868, LD 1704 or the “bathroom bill”, and LD 1432 that would remove all references to “gender identity” as a protected class under the Maine Human Rights Act.

My extended family has lived and worked in Maine for generations. I moved to Maine permanently because of family, Maine’s natural beauty, and because of Maine’s humane state laws, including the Maine Human Rights Act that adopted protections for gender identity and trans people in 2005. My wife and I moved here in 2022, leaving Florida because we no longer felt safe there. Every day I give thanks to God for living in Maine. The sign on the Turnpike that says “Maine, The Way Life Should Be,” is not just a slogan for me, but a truth for which I am deeply grateful. I want to make that saying true for all who live, work and play here.

As a former educator and mental health provider, I support the right of transgender students and individuals to attend school safely without shame or harassment. I also support trans and non-binary students to use the bathrooms and locker rooms that align with their gender identity, as well as the right of all trans people to receive gender-affirming care. In addition, as the wife of a transgender woman, the step-mother of a non-binary person, and an ally of many transgender friends, I support the right of all transgender adults to use bathrooms that match their gender-identity without facing ridicule or violence. I become anxious for my beloved wife’s safety every time she is in a public women’s restroom “too long”, fearing she might be harmed if we’re not in a safe state like Maine.

Finally, as a person of faith, I want to close with a statement that my Quaker faith community in Brunswick, Maine approved on April 13, 2025. The full document is attached, but I’d like to quote a few lines now:

“. . . the flood of recent state laws prohibiting gender-affirming care (not only for children and adolescents but also for adults) will, to a certainty, multiply the cost in trans lives beyond the already intolerable levels of violence, murder, and suicide that plague this beleaguered community, effectively eradicating trans individuals.” (Brunswick Friends Meeting, 2025)

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee. I urge you to vote “Ought not to Pass” on these bills. Thank you for listening.

**Brunswick Friends Meeting (Quakers), Falmouth Quarter**  
**Brunswick, Maine**  
**New England Yearly Meeting**

**Minute of Solidarity with the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, and Asexual (LGBTQIA) Community**

People who would extinguish freedom have historically targeted others in society who are the most vulnerable and disregarded — individuals and groups with the fewest allies who are willing to defend them. Today's attack is directed at members of the LGBTQIA community — and especially trans people, this minority-within-a-minority that does not conform to conventional norms of gender expression and gender identity, and who can most easily be "othered."

The viciousness and danger of this assault is reflected in the threats that are now issued publicly without shame or qualification. "Transgenderism," a recent speaker at a Conservative Political Action Committee [CPAC] meeting proclaimed, "must be eradicated from our public life," a chilling use of the language of hatred. And in grim confirmation of the seriousness of this intent, the flood of recent state laws prohibiting gender-affirming care (not only for children and adolescents but also for adults) will, to a certainty, multiply the cost in trans lives beyond the already intolerable levels of violence, murder, and suicide that plague this beleaguered community, effectively eradicating trans individuals.

Brunswick Friends Meeting deeply values the advances in civil rights for the broader queer community and is aware this vulnerable group is under attack. Opponents to LGBTQIA rights call on the Supreme Court majority to re-legitimize anti-sodomy laws and to reverse marriage equality. Furthermore, not content with crusading domestically, some US-based anti-LGBTQIA activists have actively supported anti-LGBTQIA laws and campaigns beyond our shores — most alarmingly in Uganda, where the recent "Kill the Gays" law imposed the death penalty for so-called "aggravated homosexuality."

In such a climate, mere assurances of tolerance, acceptance, goodwill, and even support are no longer enough from those who stand for justice and equality. Brunswick Friends Meeting commits itself to stand in solidarity with LGBTQIA people everywhere, in ways including:

- Declaring to the world that all individuals are by right entitled to the sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression that are authentically theirs, and actively campaigning for laws and policies that reflect this testimony;
- Promising to provide a safe space for all LGBTQIA members, attendees, and other individuals who reach out to us;
- Pledging to continually educate ourselves on issues of concern to the queer community and charging our committees to consider how LGBTQIA issues impact their work and how they can contribute to advancing justice and equality;
- Pledging to be allies in word and deed.

Approved April 13, 2025