

My name is Kendra Hutchins and I am from Fairfield, ME.

I have raised my six children in Maine. Three boys and three girls. They are all strong and athletic but they are not all equal.

One of my daughters loves soccer and up until high school she preferred playing on a co-ed team or on the boys' team. At the high school level when the kids began to grow and take on their adult sizes, she no longer wanted to play on the team with the boys. It became unsafe to play on the boys' team. She is fierce and strong but not stupid.

There is no denying that boys are generally stronger and faster than girls. To compete on an equal playing field means to compete boys against boys and girls against girls. There are plenty of options for co-ed play for those who want to do that.

It is also important to keep locker rooms and bathrooms a safe place.

There should be no girls in the boys' rooms and no boys in the girls' rooms. Kids have enough difficulties in life without having to be afraid of encountering someone of the opposite sex in the bathroom or locker room.

I would love to see my grandkids grow up and play sports in Maine. Please make sure that Maine will be a safe place for raising children.

Please vote "ought to pass" on LD 2239

Thank you for your time,
Kendra Hutchins