



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## **Randall A. Greenwood**

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I am here in strong support of the Protect Girls' Sports in Maine Act, LD 2239 also known as the Citizens Initiative "An Act to Designate School Sports Participation and Facilities by Sex" because this issue is not abstract, and it is not optional. It goes to the very foundation of fairness in athletics and spaces and the hard won rights of women and girls.

For over 50 years, **Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972** has guaranteed equal athletic opportunities for females. Before Title IX, girls were routinely denied access to sports, scholarships, and resources. That law changed everything, not by ignoring differences, but by recognizing them. It acknowledged a simple, undeniable reality: biological differences between males and females matter in athletics.

That is why women's sports exist in the first place.

If sex is no longer the basis for competition categories, then the very justification for girls' sports disappears. Without clear, sex-based boundaries, we are not expanding opportunity—we are erasing it. We are asking female athletes to compete on an uneven playing field, one that undermines the very protections Title IX was designed to secure.

This is not about politics. It is about biology, fairness, and honesty.

This initiative brings clarity where there has been confusion. It establishes a consistent, statewide standard rooted in biological reality by clearly defining sex in law. Under this bill, sex means a person's biological status as male or female, recorded at birth on the individual's original birth certificate. That definition is not vague, subjective, or open to interpretation, it is fixed, objective, and consistently applied.

That clarity matters. Without a clear definition, policies become inconsistent, enforcement becomes uneven, and fairness becomes impossible to guarantee. With it, schools, students, and families all understand the rules, and those rules can be applied equally across the state.

This law ensures that teams designated for girls are reserved for biological females, and teams designated for boys are reserved for biological males, while still preserving co-educational opportunities where appropriate.

And let's be direct: if we fail to draw this line, it is girls who will bear the cost. Lost roster spots. Lost championships. Lost scholarships. Lost confidence in the fairness of competition.

At the same time, this measure respects privacy, ensuring that students have separate spaces like locker rooms, showers and restrooms, where dignity and personal boundaries are protected. That is not discrimination, is common sense.

This is the moment to settle this issue with clarity and courage. Not with hostility, not with confusion, but with a firm commitment to fairness and equal opportunity.

Title IX opened the door for generations of girls to compete and succeed. It is our responsibility to make sure that door does not quietly close.

Furthermore, I encourage this committee to act decisively: move immediately into a work session, pass this initiative, send it to the full Legislature and let's make it law. By doing so, you will honor the will of the people, strengthen trust in our institutions, and preserve the integrity of the citizen initiative process.

I urge you to support this initiative—because fairness in women's sports and spaces is worth defending.

If you decide not to move this forward today, encourage Secretary Bellows to, at the minimum, be clear and concise on the Ballot wording.

I have suggested to her to revise the Question. My proposal would be "Do you want to change the public school policies to designate private facilities (bathrooms, locker rooms, showers) and competitive sports participation by Sex (male, female, co-ed) as recorded on the person's original birth certificate?" which is more in line with the legislation.

Thank you and I'll be happy to answer any questions you may have.



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Secretary of State Shenna Bellows  
148 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04330

April 13, 2026

Dear Secretary Bellows,

I am writing to respectfully request that the wording of the proposed referendum question be revised to ensure it is clear, concise, and presented in a direct and neutral manner for voters.

In its current form, the question appears to include several elements that may be misleading or incomplete. I ask that you consider addressing the following concerns:

1. The characterization that the act "changes civil rights laws" does not accurately reflect the intent or scope of the legislation.
2. The emphasis on bathrooms presents only one aspect of a broader issue and may lead to a narrow or distorted understanding.
3. The use of the term "gender" rather than "sex" alters the meaning in a way that may not align with the legislative language.
4. The implication that enforcement equates to "suing schools" oversimplifies a more complex legal and administrative process.

For a referendum to serve voters effectively, the language must be balanced, transparent and free from framing that could influence interpretation. Voters deserve a fair and accurate description so they can make informed decisions at the ballot box. As such, this is my proposal:

*"Do you want to change public school policies to designate private facilities (bathrooms, locker rooms, showers) and competitive sports participation by Sex (male, female, co-ed) as recorded on the person's original birth certificate?"*

I appreciate our ability to work productively together and to your commitment to ensuring clarity and integrity in Maine's electoral process.

Sincerely,

Randall A. Greenwood  
State Representative

*Proudly representing my friends and neighbors in Litchfield, Monmouth and my hometown of Wales, both in Androscoggin and Kennebec Counties*

District 56 Litchfield, Wales and Monmouth