

Prevention Action Change

Building Skills to End Violence

Clara Porter

Portland, ME

March 2, 2025

Dear _____,

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee.

My name is Clara Porter, I am a longtime resident of Portland and am representing Prevention. Action. Change. in submitting this testimony in support of LD537.

I am the Director of Prevention. Action. Change., an organization dedicated to violence prevention, intervention, response and healing. We work with youth of all identities to gain confidence and skills to advocate for themselves and others when faced with harassment, assault, or abuse.

Youth should ever have their identity, critical personal information or medical history shared without their knowledge. This has become a political tactic which causes harm by people and groups who take that information and target the youth and their family and has lasting mental health on the youth themselves. This is harm to which youth and their families should have the right to seek civil penalties.

We must protect minors from harm and provide them with adequate opportunity to learn, grow, and succeed in the state of Maine. This bill helps to provide that protection and opportunity.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee. I urge you to vote "Ought to Pass" on LD537.

In Community,

Clara Porter