

Craig Bramley  
Portland  
LD 260

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Portland, Maine  
March 3, 2025

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary,

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee.

My name is Craig Bramley. I am a resident of Portland, and I am writing to you in support of LD 260.

The Preamble to the U.S. Constitution sets out the purpose of securing the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity. The motto of Maine—Dirigo—means “I lead.” In 2025, the Blessings of Liberty have not been secured for all citizens, and Maine is not leading.

The Maine Human Rights Act is a powerful law that prohibits discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodation, and education for a wide range of people. However, as we have recently learned, even the best laws are subject to repeal or the shifting priorities of the executive branch. Maine has fallen behind the 29 states that have incorporated equal rights into their constitutions. Passing LD 260 will give Maine voters the chance to restore Maine’s leadership with an inclusive Equal Rights Amendment. This amendment would ensure that these fundamental protections are not left vulnerable to changing political trends but are instead enshrined in the Maine Constitution.

The rights of women and other groups have been at risk for too long. Your vote in favor of LD 260 will be an important step forward in guaranteeing rights for all Mainers.

Thank you for your time and consideration