

Molly Wunderli
Bangor, Maine
2 March 2025

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

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee. My name is Molly Wunderli, and I'm a resident of Bangor. I am testifying today in support of LD 260.

At this moment in our country, where we have already witnessed the drastic and damaging rolling back of protections for women, LGBTQIA+, and other historically marginalized groups, it is essential for states to enshrine equal rights for all in their constitutions. This is not a time for hesitance, but of proactive action signalling to the country at large—and Maine residents in particular—that the state of Maine recognizes and protects the equal rights of all humans.

As a queer woman who grew up with celebratory history lessons on the passing of abortion rights, civil rights, gay rights, and women's suffrage, I didn't anticipate that within a few short decades all four would be under constant attack. I'm scared for everyone as we see the lessons of history lost to propaganda and the machinations of the ultra-wealthy ruling class, but I am particularly frightened for everyone who is part of a group that remains unprotected by our state constitution. The passage of LD 260 would help me, and many others in my community here in Maine, sleep better at night.

Constitutions are living documents and are meant to be amended to face new realities. Please let Maine join the other 29 states that have similarly amended their state constitutions to protect their residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee. I urge you to vote "Ought to Pass" on LD 260. Thank you.