

A. Rose Allard-Moulton
Kennebunk, Maine
May 8, 2025

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

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee. My name is Rose Allard-Moulton, I'm a resident of Kennebunk. I am here today in opposition of the bills before the committee.

As an educator and mother I care deeply about the youth here in Maine. The bills proposed here today endanger their futures through intimidation, limiting their possibilities, and giving power to judgement, narrowmindedness and hate.

When asking the youth directly, the statistics are all the same, transgender youth already experience an astoundingly higher rate of harassment, both verbal and physical nationwide than their cisgender peers. Connecting directly to this, along with lack of community support and other stressors is the fact that in a 2024 National Survey conducted by the Trevor Project, 46% of transgender and non-binary young people seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year. National non-profits such as the Trevor Project, GLSEN's school climate survey, along with the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey all have collected data that shows transgender youth do not feel supported or accepted and that this impacts their mental health and life outcomes and expectancies. These young people are family members, friends, students, and community members who matter. The bills proposed here today further exacerbate the negative social climate that is pushing Maine's youth to hate themselves. These statistics are not higher because trans youth are inherently mentally ill, it is because the communities and world they are in are telling them they should not exist. Trans people have always existed- and will always exist. Do you want to be on the side of history that worked to harm and eradicate an innocent population?

By supporting trans youth you are supporting all students. The bills targeting trans girls via bans would invite any person to call for an invasive or traumatizing "gender check" on any girl who wants to play sports or use a restroom if they think she does not fit their definition or criteria of being feminine or female enough. This puts all girls and women at risk for harassment and scrutiny. Furthermore, the bills attacking trans folks use of the restroom create more hostile and dangerous situations than already exist. Trans people are not using restrooms or changing rooms to harm anyone- statistically they are the ones getting harmed in those spaces because bigoted people feel empowered to harass and harm a very small part of the population. Schools are meant to be a place where students feel safe- for many school may be the only place in their lives they feel truly or even partially safe. It is known that we cannot learn unless we feel safe, and these bills strip that possibility not only from trans youth, but from all youth as they entitle and fuel hate.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee. I urge you to vote "Ought not to Pass" on these bills. Thank you

Links to statistics

[GLSEN survey 2021](#)

[GLSEN Maine](#)

[Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey](#)

[Trevor Project 2024 national survey](#)

[National Women's Law Center](#)

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