

Monique Cornett  
Buxton  
LD 868

Testimony in opposition of LD 868.

I am a former women's collegiate athlete and member of the LGBT community, and my experience competing in both co-ed and women's sports was incredibly formative. Through sports, I developed resilience, teamwork, and the ability to connect with people from all backgrounds.

I strongly believe the national debate about trans athletes is not about safety or fairness. In December 2024, NCAA President Charlie Baker testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee that there are fewer than ten trans student-athletes among over 500,000 athletes.

Legislation like LD 868 is part of a broader effort to erode the rights and opportunities of trans people in Maine, something that concerns me deeply.

Within the athletic community, trans, nonbinary, gay, and lesbian people have long been embraced, many of whom were my teammates and competitors. Sports also has a long history of welcoming outsiders, breaking down barriers, and uniting people.

As we face a national loneliness crisis, we should be expanding — not restricting — opportunities for youth to participate in healthy activities that build connections. Restricting these opportunities for anyone is cruel, and to specifically ban trans youth from participating is a deliberate act of harm and intimidation against them and their families.

Please consider opposing LD 868 and other harmful legislation against trans youth and trans athletes across Maine.

Respectfully submitted,  
Monique Cornett  
Buxton, Maine