

Honorable Members of the Maine Judiciary Committee,

My name is Patricia Fox, and I am a resident of Union where I have lived for 3.5 years. I serve as the Associate Minister of the First Congregational Church of Camden, United Church of Christ—an Open and Affirming congregation that supports the full dignity and rights of transgender youth and adults.

I submit this testimony in strong opposition to the following bills:

LD 233, LD 868, LD 1002, LD 1134, LD 1704, LD 1337, LD 1432, and LD 380.

These bills are not about protecting fairness or safety. They are about excluding and isolating young people who already face disproportionate bullying, mental health challenges, and barriers to participation. I am the mother of a 23-year-old transgender son. Though he did not participate in school sports, these bills would have deeply affected him—invalidating his identity, restricting his access to spaces where he should have felt safe, and sending a clear message that he did not belong.

As a minister and mother, I have seen firsthand how vital it is for trans youth to be affirmed and supported. I know from my faith and my experience that every child is a sacred gift. These bills move us in the opposite direction—toward fear, marginalization, and harm.

I urge you to reject these proposals. Let Maine be a place where all children—transgender children included—can live and learn with dignity, security, and love.

Sincerely,
The Rev. Patricia L. Fox
Associate Minister, First Congregational Church of Camden, UCC
Union, ME
May 5, 2025

Patricia Fox
Union
LD 233

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