Savanna Genskow Westbrook LD 1337

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to address you. My name is Savanna Genskow, and I am a resident of Westbrook. I am here in opposition of the bills before the committee today.

These policy proposals are harmful. Harmful to the physical and mental health of students. Harmful to the community, causing greater division and unnecessary suspicion between cohorts. School sports and activities are meant to teach people to work as a team, preserver, and to keep young bodies active. They shouldn't be about policing women's and girls bodies based on unfounded assumptions.

As a former girl and athlete, I can say I am so thankful these weren't being proposed when I was in school, because if they had been, I would have been targeted, not just by the other students (which already happened) but by unknown adults as well. Bodies come in all shapes, sizes, and capabilities. Sports were an outlet for me to work through frustration, to feel good in my skin. Every person deserves the opportunity to feel like a part of something bigger than themselves. Trans peoples' physical and mental wellbeing matter and they should not be ostracized. Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee. I urge you to vote "Ought not to Pass" on these bills.