Members of the Judiciary Committee:

I begin my testimony in support of LD 868 and LD 1337 by quoting a statement from the website, www.HeCheated.Org. "Women's sports are for female athletes. To give women and girls: old, young, amateur, elite, disabled, unathletic, gay, straight, unattractive, rich, poor, masculine, feminine - all female people - opportunities to participate, advance, and succeed in athletics in an environment that supports them, listens to their concerns, protects them from harm, focuses on them, and above all else, prioritizes the needs, comfort, well-being, and happiness of female human beings."

A large effort in the USA has been undertaken to make women's sports to be treated fairly with respect to men's sports. Simply stated, a biological male, transitioning into a "female" is unfair, unjust and unsafe in the sports arena. Please see for yourself at the www.HeCheated.Org website, line by line, thousands of clearly documented cases of unsafe, unfair losses by women to males in over 76 sports categories.

This common sense truth is not meant to be disrespectful. As stated on the website Women's Sports Policy Working Group - Affirming and strengthening girls' and women's legal right to separate, single-sex sports competitions and locker rooms: "We mean no disrespect by using "male" to refer to transwomen, gender-fluid, and nonbinary athletes who have male bodies. We respect everyone's right to dress as they please, choose their own names, and conform or not to gender stereotypes. Transgender people must not be discriminated against in housing or employment. But in sport, biological sex matters. Unlike gender identity, sex is immutable. Males cannot transform into females, regardless of whether they choose to embrace or reject gender stereotypes. And females deserve their own space to compete and their own fair chance to win."

The Washington Post reported in 2023 that "Most males (about 70 percent) who call themselves women have not had any medical treatments. Only about 16 percent have had surgery. Therefore, in the majority of cases, when a man "transitions" to a woman, it's only a *social transition* with hair, makeup, behavior etc., etc.

There's a website, <u>SheWon.org</u>, that "is dedicated to archiving the achievements of female athletes who were displaced by males in women's sporting events and other types of competitions expressly for women. One day soon we hope their accomplishments will be formally recognized." Tragically, 4,161 female athletes have sustained unfair losses after years of hard work with much sacrifice to dedicate themselves to refining skills in their chosen sport. Opportunities for recognition on the victor's podium, athletic scholarships, careers in professional sports, product endorsements and more are missed because of the biological differences stacked against when males are allowed to participate in female sports.

In conclusion I urge you to vote in favor of LD 868 and LD 1337 to protect our female athletes and safe guard the opportunities and rewards that they've worked so hard for.

Respectfully,

Gary Hazard

Thorndike, Maine

Gary Hazard Thorndike LD 1337

Dear reader, I'm resubmitting this letter because I did not receive a confirmation of receipt yesterday by email, as I usually do when submitting testimony.