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

My name is Jennifer Hill and I am a resident of Waldo, Maine, where I live with my husband, Marshall Rolerson. We are landowners and pay our town, state and country's taxes in a timely manner. We are grandparents. Active in our community, we volunteer and participate in local church and social happenings. It is an honor to address you today on the topic of trans girls and women.

I stand in opposition to the bills presented before you today, which seek to isolate and humiliate trans children in the public schools.

High school is a challenging time, not just because of the expected absorption of ideas and concepts unfamiliar. The human body itself is transforming into adult rhythms and biodrama. Think back to the time when pimples were devastating, mood swings erratic, a time when looking "right" depended upon strict criteria that many of us look back on abashedly.

Imagine yourself facing the further dissonance of identifying with a gender other than the one assigned to you by your genitals.

Transgender is not a new phenomenon. The shaming focus on it is. A lens sharpened by political expediency threatens these teenagers as they face the most devastating of personal consequences – being called out for their acts of courage in identifying themselves as the girl or boy they feel they were meant to be.

There are those who would deny them this realization and a happy and fulfilling outcome.

To single out a particular human circumstance, to vilify teenagers at such a tender moment in their personal development must not be borne. Rather, as we teach our children to live and let live, the government must take a hands-off position as to trans girls and boys in the everyday life of the classroom.

Please, I urge you to vote "not to pass," and end the threat from Maine government exposing the inner lives of transgender teenagers in our state. They hurt no one in their endeavor to be the people they believe they are meant to become.

Thank you.

Jennifer Hill Waldo LD 380

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

My name is Jennifer Hill and I am a resident of Waldo, Maine, where I live with my husband, Marshall Rolerson. We are landowners and pay our town, state and country's taxes in a timely manner. We are grandparents. Active in our community, we volunteer and participate in local church and social happenings. It is an honor to address you today on the topic of trans girls and women.

I stand in opposition to the bills presented before you today, which seek to isolate and humiliate trans children in the public schools.

High school is a challenging time, not just because of the expected absorption of ideas and concepts unfamiliar. The human body itself is transforming into adult rhythms and biodrama. Think back to the time when pimples were devastating, mood swings erratic, a time when looking "right" depended upon strict criteria that many of us look back on abashedly.

Imagine yourself facing the further dissonance of identifying with a gender other than the one assigned to you by your genitals.

Transgender is not a new phenomenon. The shaming focus on it is. A lens sharpened by political expediency threatens these teenagers as they face the most devastating of personal consequences — being called out for their acts of courage in identifying themselves as the girl or boy they feel they were meant to be.

There are those who would deny them this realization and a happy and fulfilling outcome.

To single out a particular human circumstance, to vilify teenagers at such a tender moment in their personal development must not be borne. Rather, as we teach our children to live and let live, the government must take a hands-off position as to trans girls and boys in the everyday life of the classroom.

Please, I urge you to vote "not to pass," and end the threat from Maine government exposing the inner lives of transgender teenagers in our state. They hurt no one in their endeavor to be the people they believe they are meant to become.

Thank you.