

Claire Horne
Appleton
LD 1337

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Appleton, Maine
May 8, 2025

Testimony in Opposition of LD 1337: An Act to Amend the Maine Human Rights Act Regarding Female Athletes and Safety in Women's Single-sex Shelters

Testimony in Opposition of LD 1432: An Act to Remove Consideration of Gender Identity from the Maine Human Rights Act

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

My name is Claire Horne and I am a resident of Appleton, Maine. I am writing in opposition of LD 1337 and LD 1432.

The Maine Human Rights Act is necessary to protect Mainers from discrimination. It is important to me that if I need to access a service, whether it be from a private or public service provider, I'm protected by the state from being discriminated against. No one deserves to face discrimination in this state. Making changes to the Maine Human Rights Act to remove "gender identity" as a protected class and exempting private shelters from anti-discrimination requirements would create pathways for discrimination against women. If allowed to pass, this certainly won't be the end. Once some human rights are weakened or stripped away entirely, it makes it easier for more rights to be stripped away until there are no protections at all. This is why it is so important to oppose these bills from the very beginning - for the rights of women, and also for the rights of everyone.

Mainers have certain inalienable human rights that need protection. I do not want to be discriminated against for my gender identity. I would like my human rights and civil rights to be protected and expanded. Please protect our human rights - we all need them.

Thank you for your time and attention. I strongly urge you to vote "Ought not to Pass" on these bills and affirm human rights must be protected in Maine.

Sincerely,
Claire Horne
Appleton, Maine