

May 8, 2025

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

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee. My name is Elizabeth Klotzle and I am writing to you in opposition of the bills before the committee today.

As someone who has been fortunate to volunteer with organizations that work with Maine children, I believe that the bills before the committee today will harm our children, our schools and our communities. Participation in extracurricular activities is so important to children. It teaches them teamwork, perseverance, independence and dedication. We should be encouraging students to play sports, not putting up barriers to prevent them.

Currently there are organizations and associations that ensure sports are fair and as safe as possible for all students. Due to the work of these organizations, changes to Maine law are unnecessary.

I believe as adults, it is our job to teach children the importance of teamwork, self-assurance and community building. Bills LD 233, LD 868 and LD 1134 are the antithesis of these values. Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee. I urge you to vote "Ought not to Pass" on these bills. Thank you.