

Michael Levey  
Winthrop  
LD 1337

To the chairs and the members of the Judiciary Committee

My name is Michael Levey, from Winthrop, Maine. I am honored to offer testimony.  
I oppose LD 1337.

I believe that transgendered persons are a legitimate class of persons, in a minority, who are subject to stereotype and prejudice. I believe those persons are entitled to the protection of the Maine Human Rights Act. I do not believe that private shelters need an exemption, which would permit discrimination against transgendered person, is necessary. I have not heard factual evidence that misconduct in such shelters has occurred more due to transgendered persons than other persons. I fear that this bill is motivated not by facts of misconduct, but rather by fear, prejudice and stereotype, which is not the way to govern.

I thank you.