

Michael Levey
Winthrop
LD 868

To the chairs and members of the Judiciary Committee,
My name is Michael Levey from Winthrop, Maine. I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony. I oppose LD 868.

I believe that a prohibiting a transgendered student from using a restroom, or locker room which conforms to that student's gender identity is unnecessary and can cause great harm. I can think of no fact-based evidence which shows that restroom/locker room misconduct is caused more by transgendered students than any other students. Misconduct does not occur because of identity. Misconduct occurs when a student of any gender acts improperly.

I further believe that such a prohibition supports and perpetuates the stereotype and prejudicial belief that there is something wrong with a transgendered person. It increases the risk of acts of harassment, bullying and shaming. Our schools should be places where all of our students, regardless of identity, are treated well, and given a safe opportunity to learn.

I thank you.