

Julie Lewis  
Rockland  
LD 233

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

I am writing to strongly oppose LD 233 - An Act to Prohibit Biological Males from Participating in School Athletic Programs and Activities Designated for Females When State Funding Is Provided to the School.

The changes in this document are discriminatory, unnecessary, and help no one. Stop this outrageous ploy to use trans girls as political playthings. You are creating unimaginable harm to students with these discussions and emboldening bullies to harass not only the trans community, but girls as well, with taunting accusations.

I would ask that you trust the professionals. Trust the American Academy of Pediatrics, the doctors, the nurses, the mental health professionals, the educators, the Maine Principals Association, the teachers and the coaches. Trust the children and their families. All of these professionals should and do support students – ALL students, regardless.

I raised two boys and a girl equally and taught them to challenge traditional gender roles, demand equal education opportunities, take risks, speak up against injustice, dream big, and embrace failure. My daughter taught her brothers what it meant to “fight like a girl” and “run like a girl” every time she beat them in competition and trust me, they never gave her a head start on anything.

Trans girls are girls. Full stop. Trans rights are human rights. Full stop. Enough. Get back to work on things that actually will help girls. Enough with this fear mongering and victimizing.

Thank you for your consideration.