

Linda Lorenzen
Rockport
LD 868

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Linda Lorenzen, and I am a resident of Rockport. I am writing in opposition to LD868.

This bill states its purpose is to ensure equity and safety, but the reality is quite different. Sanctioning discrimination against transgender students promotes acceptance of discrimination against anyone who does not look or act exactly like everyone else. There is nothing unsafe about a trans girl using a stall in the girls' room – unless you tell people it's okay to harass her about it. There is nothing unsafe about a transgender girl running cross country with cisgender girls. If we are to ban trans girls from sports on the basis of height, weight, and muscle tone, should we not apply those same standards to cis girls? No female basketball players over a certain height, no female hockey players who went to summer camp, no???

A telling point in this proposed legislation is that it confirms it's okay for girls to play on boys' teams. No issues of safety and equity mentioned there. That tells me that the only real issue here is discrimination against transgender women and girls, not protecting cisgender girls against some imagined threat.

Therefore, I strongly urge you to vote Ought Not to Pass on LD868.

Thank you,
Linda M. Lorenzen
Rockport, ME