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**Testimony in Opposition of
LD 1134: An Act to Prohibit Males from Participating
in Female Sports or Using Female Facilities**

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Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and members of Committee on Judiciary, I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony regarding this legislation. My name is Fred McCann. I'm a resident of Portland and I'm currently serving as Vice President on the Portland Water District Board of Trustees.

This bill, if passed, would create a harmful and discriminatory environment for transgender and gender non-conforming students in our public schools.

Schools should be a place where all students, regardless of their gender identity or expression, can thrive and participate in extracurricular activities. This bill would ban transgender girls from participating in sports and using school facilities designated for female students, undermining the right to self-determination and privacy of these students. It also perpetuates harmful stereotypes and perpetuates the irrational idea that transgender and gender non-conforming individuals pose a threat to cisgender students.

This bill is also likely in violation of the Maine Human Rights Act. Enforcing such a law would lead to invasive and traumatizing physical examinations of all students, including cisgender students, which is dehumanizing and an unjustifiable invasion of privacy.

Furthermore, the bill's attempt to create a new legal classification, "Biological Male," is both disingenuous and unscientific. This term does not capture the complex biological, anatomical, and chromosomal variations that can naturally occur and is a thinly veiled attempt to legally misgender an entire class of girls and women to set a precedent for future discrimination against transgender Mainers. If enacted, this bill would not only harm transgender students but also set a dangerous precedent for future attempts to leverage the pretext it seeks to create to deprive all transgender Mainers from access to health care, legal status, and full participation in civil society.

In conclusion, I urge you to vote against LD 1134. It is a discriminatory bill that does not align with our state's values of equity and inclusion. Instead, we should focus on creating policies that uphold the rights and dignity of all students, regardless of their gender identity. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Fred McCann