Pratt Olson Camden LD 233

My name is Pratt Olson, I am a resident of Camden. I am writing in opposition to the proposed legislation which threatens transgender community members of all ages. I work with young people ranging in age from five to 17, and I've witnessed the profound harm that children experience when they are not safe and celebrated as their true selves. Kids are the bedrock of our communities, and when young people experience safety and belonging we are all more resilient. Creating supportive schools for all students starts with protecting students who face the highest intensity of cultural and structural harms. For the wellbeing of all Maine students, I urge you to vote against LD 233, LD 868, LD 1002, LD 1134, and LD 1704.