

Roberta Sharp
bar harbor
LD 1002

May 4, 2025

Roberta Sharp
24 Country Way
Bar Harbor, Maine 04609

To the Members of the Maine Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to address the committee today. My name is Roberta Sharp . I am a resident of Bar harbor, Maine. I am writing to oppose bills LD 233, 868, 1002, 1134, and 1704 dealing with gender issues in Maine school systems.

I believe that our state has put laws in place to protect students of all genders in a manner that is best for their mental health and autonomy. These proposed bills will promote division, bullying, and shame in a population that already faces harassment and discrimination. Many students prefer using names that do not appear on their birth certificates, not just trans or non binary individuals. I side with Governor Mills regarding Trans athletes in our state. Targeting an individual athlete has been blown far out of proportion to the real issues of school systems. These bills only increase the likelihood of teen suicide rates increasing in our schools. If passed , the door to inspection of all female athletes to determine their physical gender could cause further issues.

I have personally seen the harmful effects on young LGBTQ people in my community and close acquaintances before we had legislation to protect their rights. I have witnessed bullying and its effects on self esteem, often triggering suicide attempts. Let's not go backwards. Please do not vote for the passage of these bills that target the transgender population.

I thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Roberta Sharp