

Lisa Sturtevant
Cushing
LD 1337

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May 7, 2025

Senator Carney
Representative Kuhn
Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee

RE:LDs 1137 & 1432

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

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony to the Committee. I write in Opposition to LDs 1137 & 1432 that are being presented on May 8, 2025.

After nearly three decades of working to pass non-discrimination protections for all Mainers, including LGBTQ+ people, in 2005 our State adopted rights for gender identity within the Maine Human Rights Act. In doing so, Maine joined 16 other states to protect people from discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity, including expression in employment, housing, education, credit, and public accommodations. Maine was the sixth state in the country to establish laws to protect gender identity and expression.

LDs 1137 & 1432 would roll-back nearly 20 years of meaningful protections afforded to LGBTQ+ people under the Maine Human Rights Act. These protections allow for all people in Maine to have the same rights and protections and support a healthy, diverse, inclusive population where everyone is protected, cared about and equal under Maine law.

Maine must continue to be an inclusive State that protects all people from discrimination. I urge you to vote "Ought not to Pass" on LD 1137 and LD 1432.

Sincerely,

Lisa D Sturtevant
Cushing, Maine