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Maine must stand up against the national political agenda interfering with our rights to make our own laws. Bills that discriminate against transgender students violate both state and federal constitutional guarantees of equal protection. As an educator I know that these bills would impact girls and the entire LGBTQ+ community, leaving them vulnerable to harassment and greater emotional instability. This isn't about "protecting" girls and sports – if these people were really into protecting girls' sports, they would have been beating the drum long ago, complaining about the inequality between male and female athletes' access to equal equipment, equal pay, equal tournament play. The bans simply are about the hatred toward certain individuals whose gender (which is hardwired in the brain, not about genitalia) misaligns with what some people see as gender norms. Policing this type of situation is unfair, unconstitutional, immoral, and simply mean. Trans females are not playing on girls' teams because they want medals, they are competing because they are athletes and enjoy being active.