

Nikki Williams
PORTLAND
LD 1704

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

My name is Nikki Williams, and I'm a resident of Portland. I am writing in opposition of the bills before the committee.

As a parent, I know that these bills would hurt Maine schools and communities. Schools should create a supportive environment where every student can receive an education, feel safe to be themselves, and participate in school activities.

This bathroom ban would prohibit schools from creating policies allowing students to use a bathroom if that bathroom does not correspond to the student's sex assigned at birth. No one wins with a ban like this. These bans would invite any person to call for an invasive or traumatizing "gender check" on any girl who wants to just use the bathroom in a comfortable space.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee. I urge you to vote "Ought not to Pass" on these bills.

Thank you!