

Emily W. Andersen
Rockland, ME 04841

April 14, 2026

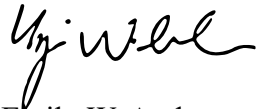
To Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn and Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary:

My name is Emily Andersen and I'm a resident of Rockland. I am writing to express my strenuous opposition to proposed ballot measure LD 2239. This proposed measure is designed to punish and harass transgender youth, and is an act of bullying that does not belong in Maine, our schools, or our communities. As a result, the measure is also in direct violation of the Maine Human Rights Act, which guarantees protection for the rights of Maine's citizens, including our transgender friends, neighbors, family members, colleagues, and students.

Any proposed measure that singles out transgender students and citizens is rooted in the baseless fears of individuals who clearly have had no contact with (or do not realize they have had contact with) transgender individuals. If they had, they would know that transgender individuals are just as human as they are—deserving of the same rights and freedoms. I have worked with transgender individuals, and have transgender friends, family members, and neighbors. I firmly support their right to exist in this state, as well as this country, free from harassment and bigotry.

I look forward to a day when acceptance of people's gender identity will be the norm, and we can stop wasting time and energy debating their right to fair and equal treatment under the law. Until then, the State of Maine should continue doing everything in its power to protect our transgender citizens.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emily W. Andersen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Emily W. Andersen