

Philip Berezney
Steuben
LD 2239

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

My name is Philip Berezney, and I am a resident of Steuben. I am opposed to the proposed ballot measure, LD 2239.

Our state laws must maintain and protect the rights for all students to fully participate in school activities and spaces. This unjust proposal is intentionally designed to exclude, intimidate, and criminalize trans and gender expansive youth and their families. At the same time, by its effort to narrowly limit, categorize, and control all students' bodies, this proposal aims to harm all students, under the misleading guise of "protecting girls." Maine must remain committed to public schools as spaces where all students are free from harassment and discrimination, and all students have equitable access to the same educational opportunities.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee.