

April 14, 2026

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

My name is Deborah Crump, I am a resident of West Paris and am submitting testimony in opposition to LD 2239, **An Act to Designate School Sports Participation and Facilities by Sex**. As a person of faith I believe in the inherent worth of every individual. Transgender people deserve the right to be treated fairly and without discrimination based on their gender identity. I strongly oppose any efforts by the state of Maine to restrict those rights. Our state laws must protect freedom and fairness and we cannot open the door to laws and government policing or controlling our bodies. This proposal would repeal our foundational Maine Human Rights Act and leave Mainers with fewer civil rights protections.

I also take issue with the definition of “sex”. There is so much current and historical evidence that one’s gender identity does not always align with the gender assigned at birth. Much harm has been done to individuals and to our society by imposing restrictions on transgender individuals’ rights to be who they are and to participate in activities and groups that align with their gender. I think this measure is a thinly disguised effort to impose costly, unnecessary measures on the state of Maine’s educational institutions in order to advance a right-wing agenda. It is a major distraction from the much more important needs of our students and our schools.

I appreciate the opportunity to share my perspective and urge the committee to oppose LD 2239 and stand for the rights of all Mainers.

Sincerely, Deborah Crump