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LD 2239

April 13, 2026

Testimony regarding Maine LD2239: An Act to Designate School Sports Participation and Facilities by Sex

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and members of the Committee on Judiciary:

I am writing today to express my strong opposition to LD 2239, An Act to Designate School Sports Participation and Facilities by Sex. This bill is based on misunderstanding of the true nature of transgendered people. In my experience and education, a transgender male is in fact male and a transgender female is in fact, female. This is a biological state and not just a state of mind or identity.

I have known and worked with a number of transgender people, young and old in my life and career. These people just want to be respected, regarded, accepted, and valued for who they truly are. They are no more of a danger or threat to others than any human being is.

Despite language in this bill stating that it does not violate Maine's Human Rights Act, I believe it does, in fact, blatantly discriminate against transgender people. Maine was among the very earliest states to rule that children in public schools must be allowed to access the bathroom for the sex they identify with. That case was settled in a lawsuit against the Orono, Maine, school district. I believe the finding stands today. Furthermore, this bill does not protect the rights of females to play sports and win. That is based on expertise, practice, endurance, hard work, and talent, and perhaps even some luck, not whether someone else may have an advantage. There are many ways in which people have advantages over each other in all walks of life. Thus, this bill discriminates against one class of people without duly protecting the group that it was intended to protect.

I urge you to vote "ought not to pass" and put an end to this bill now.