

ELLEN GRUNBLATT

Jay

LD 2239

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

My name is Ellen Grunblatt. I am a resident of Jay and am retired from practices in both medicine and mental health. I am strongly opposed to the proposed ballot measure LD 2239, and I appreciate the opportunity to share my concerns.

This referendum is nothing less than an assault on the civil rights of Maine students, rights that are protected by the Maine Human Rights Act. There is no way to implement this act except by forcing students to prove their gender identity before enrolling in teams, using locker rooms and even using the bathroom.

Proving gender identity is not simple. Are we going to require students to carry their birth certificates? Are we going to subject students to body checks? Are teacher and administrators going to have to have a judgmental, intrusive relationship with students, especially those who may not conform to typical gender presentation, and who may or may not be trans?

This referendum is vague, poorly conceived, and even poorly worded. It is an example of outside money intruding on Maine politics and Maine values, since a single out-of-state billionaire funded the effort to put this referendum on the ballot. It should be rejected by the committee.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to express my perspective.