

Sarah Harber
Portland
LD 2239
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Portland, ME
April 13, 2026

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

My name is Sarah Harber and I'm a resident of Portland. I am writing as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (therapist) and parent. I am strongly opposed to the proposed ballot measure LD 2239.

As a social worker, I am very concerned about how this measure would affect kids and schools. I support trans youth and adults in my therapy practice and understand the impact that affirming every child's strengths and identity has on their long term health and well-being. I believe all children should have the opportunity to experience an education free from harassment and fear, including in school sports.

As I parent, I am outraged that trans youth and their peers must be exposed to the kind of violent political agenda people from outside of our state are proposing. We will not sell our children to the highest bidder! Protecting access to any school affiliated resource upholds the right to a free and fair education for all our children. In contrast, opening the door to making changes in the protections guaranteed in the Maine Human Rights Act, which prohibits discrimination based on gender identity, as well as other forms of discrimination, puts all of our children at risk. This ballot measure has no place in our state.

Thank you for allowing me to share my experience and perspective with you.

Respectfully,

Sarah Harber, LCSW LADC