

Chris Hourcle
Gorham
LD 2239

Hello Members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Chris Hourclé, and I am a resident of Gorham, Maine.

I wish to testify in opposition to LD 2239. This bill is trying to make trans children second class citizens in our schools and in our society. I may be in the minority because I have friends and family members that are transgender. Some I have only ever know as their current gender, and some I watched go through the transition.

Transgender people are brave. They know they will be the subject of slander and hatred, and yet they transition anyway. And even under that slander and hatred, they are happier than if they were living the lie of their birth gender. These people are living their true self, and yet prejudice is being used against them.

What do we know of gender? That which we learned in middle school that there are two genders? Or that which is covered in graduate level classes in biology that nature has made much more than two genders even though they appear outwardly to be two genders.

I have watched people go from being depressed as the sex that they were born as to leading happy lives as their new self. This bill would harm children in that it would cause them to remain depressed and likely cause self-harm or attempt suicide. Now, I am sure that the authors of this bill know that and are happy to let trans kids suffer, but I am not. If you are afraid that a straight man is going to pretend to be trans to sneak into a women's changing area, then your problem is with straight men and not with trans women.

Life is hard enough for Trans people, please vote against this bill which will only make it harder for them.

Chris Hourclé