

Julia McDonald-Plumb
Albion
LD 2239

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

My name is Julia McDonald-Plumb and I live in Albion. I am submitting testimony today in opposition to the proposed ballot measure LD 2239.

Though I am home with young children right now, I have worked in Maine's public schools for many years and I can assure you that our teachers have plenty on their plates without being responsible for policing students' gender identities. More importantly, this vague blanket ban robs school personnel of the ability to make nuanced decisions based on the needs of actual students in front of them and sets a dangerous precedent, undermining the Maine Human Rights Act. I believe that the way our state has protected our rights at the state level makes us a leader in the nation. Finally, as a foster parent to both teens and young children, I would point out that actually enforcing this law is a nightmare for the population I care for. While it is generally possible to get a copy of a child's birth certificate eventually, that is not a document that typically travels with a child when they enter foster care or change foster homes.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective and experience.

Sincerely,
Julia McDonald-Plumb