

Testimony in Strong Support of I.B. 3 – The Protect Girls’ Sports in Maine Act

To the Honorable Members of the Committee,

My name is Timothy Nickels, and I am writing in strong and unequivocal support of I.B. 3, “The Protect Girls’ Sports in Maine Act.”

As the father of a daughter, this issue is deeply personal to me. My daughter deserves the same fair opportunities, privacy, and protection that generations before she fought to secure. Those protections are now at risk, and that is why this bill must pass.

Children naturally go through phases. They change their interests, their goals, and at times how they see themselves. That is a normal part of growing up. But when those shifting identities begin to impact structured systems like athletics and private spaces, it is the responsibility of adults to provide clear, consistent boundaries.

Right now, those boundaries are not clear, and our girls are the ones paying the price.

I.B. 3 restores fairness by ensuring that athletic teams are designated and compete based on biological sex. This is not controversial; it is the foundation of girls’ sports. Without it, fair competition for female athletes is undermined.

This bill also protects privacy and dignity by maintaining separate locker rooms, restrooms, and similar facilities based on sex. These are real, everyday spaces where my daughter and every girl should feel safe and respected.

This is not about a lack of compassion. It is about fairness, reality, and responsibility. We can respect individuals while still recognizing that biological differences matter, especially in athletics and private spaces.

If we fail to act, we are telling our daughters that their opportunities and their safety come second. That is unacceptable.

As a father, I will not stand by while the protection meant for girls is weakened. My daughter deserves fairness. She deserves privacy. And she deserves leaders who are willing to stand up for her.

I urge you to pass I.B. 3 for the protection of our daughters and the future of girls’ sports in Maine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Timothy Nickels', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Timothy Nickels