

Jenna Wozer
Kennebunkport
LD 2239

Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Jenna Wozer and I am a child and adolescent psychiatrist in training. I oppose LD 2239.

In my clinical work, I see that transgender and gender-diverse youth already face elevated rates of depression, anxiety, and suicidality. Research consistently shows that gender-affirming environments, including access to sports teams and school facilities aligned with a student's gender identity, are associated with improved mental health outcomes for transgender individuals. Policies that exclude these children increase stigma, isolation, and psychological harm. Adolescence is a critical period for identity development and peer connection. Participation in school activities is essential to well-being, and restricting access based on a fixed definition of sex is harmful to children excluded by this bill. This bill also conflicts with established standards of care supported by organizations such as the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and the American Academy of Pediatrics, which emphasizes the importance of supportive, affirming, and inclusive environments.

For these reasons, I urge you to oppose LD 2239.

Respectfully,
Jenna Wozer, DO