

Name: Thomas Catricala

Title:

Organization or Agency: CT DSA

Topic: SJ00035 - RESOLUTION PROPOSING A STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT CONCERNING DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEX UNDER THE EQUAL PROTECTION CLAUSE.

Supports

Testimony:

Dear Honorable Members of the Connecticut General Assembly,

I am writing to express my support for Senate Joint Resolution No. 35, which proposes an amendment to the Connecticut Constitution to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex under the Equal Protection Clause. I support this bill because trans, non-binary, and queer CT residents cannot continue to rely on the federal government for protection. Connecticut must do everything in its power to protect marginalized groups during a time when attacks are becoming more and more vicious. Those in the LGBTQ+ community, specifically transgender and non-binary folk, experience higher rates of depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation. These issues are often compounded by discrimination in employment, healthcare, and socially. Make no mistake: those higher rates are directly related to the treatment of their personhood and identity from broader society. As the country heads in a darker direction, let's continue to be national leaders in progressive, proactive policymaking that focuses on protecting marginalized people from harm.

Thank you.