



Testimony Before the New Hampshire House Judiciary Committee
Bronwyn Sims
Leading Member, Independent Women's Network
February 20, 2026

Dear Chairman Lynn and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

My name is Bronwyn Sims, and I'm submitting this testimony as a concerned New Hampshire woman and as the Leader of Independent Women's Network Southern New Hampshire Chapter, which supports practical policies that protect freedom, opportunity, and safety for women and girls.

Thank you for holding a hearing on HB1217, HB1299, HB1442, HB1447, and HB1564 today. I strongly urge the committee to pass these important bills, which all work together to solve several issues New Hampshire women are facing on a daily basis.

Government officials have ignored biological differences, forcing women to surrender privacy and safety in restrooms, locker rooms, and single-sex spaces to men's desires. As a survivor of male violence—at 16 years old I was held at gunpoint during my first job, forced to the ground with coworkers while the intruder robbed us; mugged three times with physical assaults including being shoved down, struck by a rock, and attacked with a knife in a subway; and recently trapped naked in the Keene YMCA women's locker room by a man identifying as transgender who lingered 20 minutes—I know the terror of unpredictable male intrusion all too well. These experiences, coaching girls as young as five, drive my plea: protect our spaces from vulnerability and worse.

These bills are straightforward common sense: it makes sure women and girls aren't required to share those intimate female-only areas with men. These bills set clear rules to restrooms, locker rooms, prisons, sports and other single-sex spaces while still respecting the rights of every resident in New Hampshire.

This legislation simply preserves what women and girls have always had: private spaces that not only protect them from violence and indignity but allow them to flourish. There is nothing controversial in expecting our elected officials will protect us from this long-assumed right being trampled on.

If New Hampshire passes these bills, the state will clearly show that the privacy, safety, and equal chances for women and girls are worth defending.

I respectfully ask the committee to move HB1217, HB1299, HB1442, HB1447, and HB1564 forward.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Bronwyn Sims

Chapter Leader, Southern New Hampshire Chapter of Independent Women's Network

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