

Dear Chair Klemin and members of the House Judiciary Committee,

My testimony is in opposition to House Bill 1489. I ask that you give this bill a Do Not Pass.

The reason for this is that this bill affects individuals I care about, and I know that some of them do play sports, but now are wary to play in college. This bill will affect them greatly due to the restrictions of labeling in this bill along with the terms for biological sex instead of gender. It also prevents them from playing on the team they identify with.

Additionally, it states in line 22 and 23 this, "An athletic team or sport designated for "females", "women", or "girls" may not be open to students of the male sex." This not the only part that feels like it restricts it, but pretty much saying that transgender and nonbinary students don't exist. Pretty much the bill is stating transwomen are not women. Yet, it goes against the National Collegiate Athletic Association policy on transgender athletes.


Which brings me to my next point of the reason some believe this bill will protect women's sports. The issue is there are already guidelines set forth by National Collegiate Athletic Association that a transwoman must follow to be allowed to participate in women's sport. Accord to the the National Collegiate Athletic Association, which is attached, talks about any transgender student who is not taking hormone treatment and those who are. It states, "A trans female (MTF) student-athlete being treated with testosterone suppression medication for Gender Identity Disorder or gender dysphoria and/or Transsexualism, for the purposes of NCAA competition may continue to compete on a men's team but may not compete on a women's team without changing it to a mixed team status until completing one calendar year of testosterone suppression treatment... A trans female (MTF) transgender student-athlete who is not taking hormone treatments related to gender transition may not compete on a women's team."

Even if one does not believe a transwoman is a female, there are already policy that prevent man transition into a woman from participating in women's sports if they have yet to start hormones or have yet been on hormones for over a year. Some might argue that trans athletes have an unfair advantage especially when it comes to trans woman. Yet, there are some studies that have been done and there is yet a firm answer to if trans athletes have an unfair advantage. To be honest, in my own mind, it should be up to the higher education on designating athletic teams and sports for male, female, or coed participation and limitations on use of governmental property for athletic. That is all

I once again ask that you give House Bill 1489 a DO Not Pass.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and service to our state.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles J Vondal". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent initial "C".

Signed

Charles J Vondal