

North Dakota House of Representatives

> STATE CAPITOL 600 EAST BOULEVARD BISMARCK, ND 58505-0360



COMMITTEES: Judiciary Agriculture

Representative SuAnn Olson District 8 17763 Highway 83 Baldwin, ND 58521-9724 solson@ndlegis.gov

## HCR 3010

March 8, 2023

Thank you, Chairwoman Lee and Committee members,

My name is Rep. SuAnn Olson, representing District 8. Today, I'm asking you to support a resolution that is informally known as a Women's Bill or Rights and recognizes the biological difference between the sexes.

Why is this important? Radical gender ideologues are trying to redefine womanhood as a subjective state unrelated to biology. But this isn't simply a matter of semantics. The reality of this redefinition is that women's opportunities are diminished and their privacy and safety are threatened. Most women understand that a "woman" is female, but gender ideologues want to redefine womanhood as a subjective state distinct from - and more important than – biological sex.

We have all heard of the swimmer, Lia Thomas, a fully intact male who competed on the University of Pennsylvania men's team for 3 years and was ranked 462<sup>nd</sup> among NCAA men's swimmers, and who last season, dominated the Women's NCAA swimming championship. The female swimmers that competed with Thomas were smaller, had less muscle mass, and less lung capacity.

Our failure to legally define "woman" harms more than just athletes. It makes scholarships and other opportunities that were specifically designed to empower females available to biological men instead. Further, our failure to define "female" jeopardizes previously uncontroversial single-sex spaces such as dorm rooms, sororities, locker rooms, and rest rooms.

All too often, the corruption of sex-based language is happening by administrative or judicial decree, without the consent of the political branches or the people themselves.

By redefining "sex" to mean "gender" or "gender identity," unelected officials are rewriting laws that prohibit sex discrimination to require unjust discrimination against women.

This resolution will push gender advocates to be transparent about their objectives and persuade the public, not simply impose their will through a linguistic sleight of hand.

I urge the committee to stand for truth, stand for science, and stand for common sense. Please vote YES on HCR 3010.