

Testimony of Alanna Smith in Support of North Dakota HB 1298

My name is Alanna Smith, and I am a junior at Danbury High School in Connecticut. Please give a favorable recommendation to HB 1298. Since my freshman year, I have been a major contributor in the overall success of our girls' outdoor track team. Excelling on the track, setting personal records gives me a sense of personal achievement and confidence that carries over into all parts of my life. I love training, I love competing. The thrill of competing against girls like myself who train hard, work hard is rewarding. I compete to be the best, to be the fastest, to be a champion ... on a level playing field.

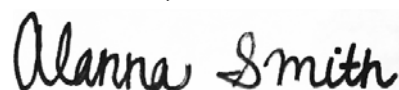
My physical success on the track, however, has been limited by the introduction of males into the girls' category. I go to the blocks and know that I am the fastest girl on the line. However, I also know that it will never be enough because there is a biological male on the starting line with me. It has taken me years to develop the personal confidence and sense of belonging I now feel on my track and field team. But the addition of males to girls' sports fills me with a sense of defeat before I even get set up in the blocks.

Biological females deserve the opportunity to be confident, to be competing against girls who are biologically the same as us, to have fairness of play, and to know we have a chance to win in our own sport.

Males will always have a physical advantage over females. Isn't that why we have women's sports in the first place? No matter how much testosterone levels are suppressed, boys remain stronger with more efficient physical bodies to excel in sports. That biological unfairness doesn't go away because of what someone believes about gender identity. Common sense tells me that biology and NOT identity is what matters in athletics.

Please save women's sports for all biological female athletes like myself in your state. Please restore a level playing field for women athletes, and restore the fairness of play we train so hard for and truthfully deserve! PLEASE give a favorable recommendation to HB 1298.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alanna Smith". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of "Alanna" and "Smith" being capitalized and prominent.

Alanna Smith
Danbury, CT