

February 13, 2023; 1:30 pm
House Committee on Education
Rep. Adam Thomas, Chair

Jill Hiegert
Parent

HB2238 – Creating the "fairness in women's sports" act to require that female student athletic teams only include members who are biologically female.

Opponent, Written Only

Chair Thomas and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide Opponent testimony on HB2238.

As a parent of three kids that identify LGBTQ I can assure you this bill will negatively affect so many use in our state. All children deserve the same opportunities to participate and live their life without being singled out for being different. They just want to compete with their friends without being bullied. I hope you will consider the feelings of kids that would be affected and vote no on this bill.

Trans youth have been competing in sports at all levels for years, and should be allowed to continue. Media and politicians bring excessive attention to a trans athlete having success as "proof" that all trans athletes should be banned. My kids all play competitive sports and I can assure you have played against some transgender youth but my kids have never complained about that. No matter what sport you're playing there's always going to be an opponent who is stronger, faster, or smarter than your kid. This doesn't give you the right to exclude that kid from participating just because they may have an advantage. Transgender children deserve a chance to participate fully in their schools and communities, without fear of being called out for being different.

I hope you fully consider the impact this bill would have on so many youth in our state. Passage of this bill will only increase the number of kids struggling with depression and suicide.

Since this really isn't a huge issue in our state, I would hope that you would focus your attention to something that does affect all of our youth which would be the senseless gun violence in our world.

I hope you will consider the feelings of all youth and please vote no on this bill. Thank you for considering this testimony before you vote.