February 13, 2023; 1:30 pm

House Committee on Education Rep. Adam Thomas, Chair

Jonathan Smith Parent/ Topeka Resident

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.

My name is Jonathan Smith, I'm a parent of two children and my brother-in-law is a trans-man. I've been a Topeka Resident for the majority of my life and seeing this bill take up time and effort in the legislature is frankly embarrassing.

I couldn't be further opposed to this misguided bill.

It was difficult enough for my sister's husband growing up in school not being himself, but I've never known him happier than he is now as an adult.

In school, if he had chosen to live his truth, as a man, it would be very strange and confusing to see this male-presenting person playing on a female team.

In addition, under this law's section 3 and 4, his team mates would not be able to raise any concerns because we was born biologically female, and could sue his team for not letting him play on the women's team.

This bill makes no sense in any real-world application. So I can't help but request a rejection of this bill and the massive waste of time, energy, and school funding that would come from its passage

If the issue that legislators and constituents have is with trans women playing on women's teams and trans men playing on men's teams in public schools, I would suggest that they educate themselves and look up how many people across the state play at any kind of professional or championship level and ask why we are legislating to restrict literally no more than a dozen or so citizens in Kansas.

My name is Jonathan Smith and I oppose HB 2238. Thank you for taking the time to read this bill and my testimony.