

Opponent Testimony of HB2238
For the Senate Education Committee
March 6, 2023
Alice Capson
Kansas resident

Chair Baumgardner and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide opponent written testimony on House Bill 2238.

I am parent, grandparent and retired teacher opposed to HB2238. This bill is not necessary but it would further isolate a few children who are different, and prevent them, if they choose, to fully participate in the benefits of sports at school.

Passing this bill would marginalize children who are gender-non-conforming, a group that already is at higher risk of suicide and bullying. My friend has a grandchild who fits this category, a creative loving child. This bill would single out this child and cause harm! As a teacher, I have seen that through sports, many students learn skills of leadership and teamwork. Sports also help kids make friends. I've seen students take an interest in schoolwork when they had to keep up their grades to stay eligible, and to not disappoint their coaches. This bill would deprive a handful of children of these benefits.

There already is a mechanism in place by the regulatory sports organizations. There is no need for the legislature to have this bill.

Please vote NO on HB2238.