

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

I am a concerned Kansas resident. Kansas has been my home for 10 years. The Kansas I know and love doesn't engage in and promote discriminatory and transphobic behavior. The Kansas I know and love has its history and its future in demanding equal rights.

Trans youth are one of the most vulnerable populations in the US today. This bill will ostracize transgender girls and increase rates of suicide and depression among trans children. Trans kids need support, they need caring role models, and they need hobbies such as athletics.

There have been 0 cases ever of anyone pretending to be transgender in order to access certain "privileges" (such as women's sports), because the fact of the matter is, being trans is not a privileged position. It takes a lot of courage to be openly trans and face all of the hateful rhetoric, bigotry, and ignorance proliferating in today's society.

Protect trans youth, and protect trans kids in sports. Someone needs to.