Opponent Testimony of HB2238 For the Senate Education Committee March 6, 2023 Laurie Todd 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 a 63-year-old woman living in Kansas and many have the wrong idea about transgender athletes.

I was born a female and that is how I identify today. From a young age, I was able to beat both my older brothers in sports. Not because they couldn't play sports proficiently, but because I was better than they were, I practiced more and I was determined to be the best. This nonsense about transgender girls not being able to play fairly or having an advantage against cist-gendered girls is angering. They are not boys playing against girls. In their minds, they are girls who would be competing against other girls. How has this important fact been lost in all this political turmoil? They see themselves, carry themselves, and behave as girls because somewhere in the universe wires got crossed and a girl was given a male's body. To punish these girls because their equipment is incorrect is cruel and asinine. There will not be a physical advantage for transwomen playing sports, but there will be a talent advantage, as it is in all sporting events. This bill telling them that they are weird or unacceptable will cause lives to be lost and there is absolutely no excuse for the harm you will pour onto this group of human beings. This bill is shameful and a sham.

Allow girls to play girls' sports, whether transgender or not. There really isn't a difference.

Sports are won by talented athletes and lost by those less willing to put in the hard work to achieve that goal. Stop assuming trans-Americans will dominate any sport, but certainly give them the opportunity to compete in all sports.