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Health and Government Operations Committee

Government Operations and Health Facilities Subcommittee

Public Health and Minority Health Disparities Subcommittee

Rules and Executive Nominations Committee

Legislative Policy Committee



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HB 757 - Education – Interscholastic and Intramural Teams and Sports – Designation Based on Biological Sex (Save Women's Sports Act)

Why Do We Need This Bill?

We need to protect women's sports. HB 757 is designed to protect female athletic opportunities by ensuring that only biological females are eligible to compete in girls' K- 12 school sports. Ever since Congress enacted Title IX fifty years ago, there has been unprecedented athletic opportunity and achievement for women and girls that include scholarships, Olympic medals and the many physical and emotional benefits of participating in sports. In the name of "inclusion" males and transgender girls/women (who were born male) are participating in women's sports. Female athletes have fought too long and too hard for equal athletic opportunity to let that happen.

The average male is bigger, faster, and stronger than the average female. This bill is designed for interscholastic and intramural athletic teams, and while the NCAA covers collegiate sports and has its own transgender eligibility requirements, there was a recent tournament that highlighted this issue. This past weekend at the Ivy League Women's Swimming & Diving Championship held at Harvard, U-Penn's Lia Thomas, born a male but now transgender women, is a senior who is competing in her first year for the women's swim team. The last three seasons she has competed on the men's team. In this tournament, she won **three** events and set **five** records. Three women who would have won gold were given second place, and other women were displaced further down the line.

This male-female athletic differential is almost entirely the result of biology. In head-to-head competitions, allowing even one or two male-bodied athletes to compete in the women's division can severely limit the chances of success for women athletes. The "inclusion" of trans girls should not come at the cost of discriminating against a biologically-female-at-birth women.

What This Bill Does?

Requiring K-12 interscholastic and intramural athletic teams or sports to be expressly designated based on biological sex; girls, boys, and coed. Additionally, it protects schools from adverse actions against a school or county board of education for maintaining separate interscholastic and intramural athletic teams and sports for students of the female sex. It also provides that certain individuals have the right to bring a civil action under certain circumstances.

For more information, <u>download</u>, **COMPETITION Title IX**, **Male-Bodied Athletes**, and the Threat to **Women's Sports**. Independent Women's Law Center

Save Women's Sports Act - Please Support HB 757