

February 15, 2023  
House Bill 359

Good afternoon, Madam Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee,

I am writing to request full Support of the needed HB359 Bill that is on the table. For the purpose of requiring certain interscholastic and intramural junior varsity and varsity athletic teams or sports sponsored by certain schools to be expressly designated based on biological sex; prohibiting certain entities from taking certain adverse actions against a school or county board of education for maintaining separate interscholastic and intramural junior varsity and varsity athletic teams and sports for students of the female sex; providing that certain individuals have the right to bring a civil action under certain circumstances; and generally relating to interscholastic and intramural junior varsity and varsity teams and sports of public and nonpublic schools.

The bill precisely outlines the reasons why this bill is needed. The designation of separate sex-specific athletic teams or sports is necessary to promote equality of athletic opportunities. This bill maintains opportunities for female athletes to demonstrate their strength, skills, and athletic abilities and to provide them with opportunities to obtain recognition and accolades, college scholarships, and numerous other long-term benefits that result from participating and competing in athletic endeavors.

As a representative of parents across the Baltimore County area who are in STRONG support for this bill, I request full support for this bill from the committee in supporting and protecting our children in sports and ultimately the locker rooms across Maryland.

Warm Regards,

Tara Thompson  
Chair  
Moms For Liberty - Baltimore County