

Support HB47 for Fairness in Girls' Sports

As a mother, a former high school athlete, and **a high school coach for 30 years**, I urge you to **vote in favor of HB47 to protect our female athletes.**

We have come so far with **Title IX**. Now more girls than ever benefit from participating in athletics. As a coach, I see firsthand the benefits of athletics. The girls who participate in sports overall have higher grades, better attendance, a healthier lifestyle and body image, manage stress better, and do better socially.

My girls' varsity basketball team is having a stellar season. We are 16-2. I have a young lady who scored her 1000th point as a sophomore - the first in school history for both boys or girls to accomplish that. She has sacrificed a lot to put so much time into her game and plans to play in college. She also has a twin brother who plays for the boys' varsity team. He is a very good player, but not a standout on the team like his sister. However, if they play 1 on 1, guess who will win? Every time? You know the answer.

Again, my very successful team would not be able to compete against a varsity boys' team (even a mediocre one) simply because boys are bigger, stronger, and faster. Truth be told, they probably couldn't compete against the middle school boys' team. Nor should they as it could be dangerous for them physically. **Biology is fact.**

Besides a level playing field, **no girl should feel uncomfortable or threatened by having to share a locker room or restroom with a biological male.** We've heard the horror stories of rape, etc. Nor should they compete against girls who are in the process of "transitioning" and taking testosterone, which is a performance enhancer and therefore an unfair advantage.

I applaud the Vermont school coach who forfeited playing in the championship game rather than subject their team to playing against a boy. Shame on the Vermont school board for punishing them instead of supporting them. As a coach, I would make the same decision if I ever find myself in that situation. Hopefully, it doesn't come to that because you will pass HB47.

Respectfully,

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