

Christine Hunt and Jay Crouthers
1014 Dockser Drive
Crownsville, MD 21032

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Maryland General Assembly
Members of the Senate Education, Energy and the Environment Committee
Annapolis, MD

RE: SB 588 - Education - Interscholastic and Intramural Junior Varsity and Varsity Teams and Sports - Designation (Fairness in Girls' Sports Act)

Dear Senators,

We support and respectfully request that you vote for this bill.

The petition below says it all for us. The abuse, devastating conditions and disappointments which girls are now being subjected to is completely against the values of our society. If biological males that identify with being female want to play sports, then perhaps they should have their own locker rooms and leagues and NOT be combined with biological women's sports activities.

Petition:

The fight to protect the integrity of girls' sports has never been more critical. Sports should be about fairness, opportunity, and respect for the hard work that athletes dedicate to their craft. Fairness in Girls' Sports, ensures only biological females compete in high school varsity and junior varsity girls' sports.

But this fight goes beyond records. It's about protecting the physical safety of female athletes. In one appalling case, a female volleyball player suffered a traumatic brain injury after a ball was spiked at her by a trans-identified male competitor. In another, a high school field hockey player had her teeth knocked out. These aren't isolated incidents—they're warnings about the real-world consequences of ignoring biology.

Even the rules and equipment in sports reflect these biological differences. Girls' volleyball nets are lower. Girls' basketballs are smaller. And lacrosse rules and uniforms are designed specifically for the female body. These adjustments exist because male and female physiology isn't interchangeable. **Yet activists pushing to blur these distinctions seem to believe gender ideology trumps fairness and safety.**

Sports are about physical performance—not identity. It takes just one trans-identified male to disrupt the entire landscape of girls' sports. We've seen this globally, where countless podium spots, scholarships, and championship titles have been lost by female athletes to trans-identified males. **As a society, we can respect and celebrate diversity while maintaining fair competition by recognizing the realities of biology.**

Recently, the Biden administration backed off a proposed rule that would have extended Title IX protections to transgender athletes. This decision shows that public sentiment and legal pushback are starting to shift the conversation back toward common sense. At least 25 states have passed laws to protect girls' sports, and Congress will revisit HR 734, the Protecting Women and Girls in Sports Act, in 2025.

These bills, that promote these policies, are harming our children more than helping them, and all for an agenda that a small margin of Marylanders MAY want. We believe that these gender-based legislations are being pushed on us from zealots at the federal level and special interest groups that have a sinister agenda.

WHO IS REALLY BEHIND THIS LEGISLATION? WHOSE SPECIAL INTEREST IS IT? DID THIS COME FROM A MARYLAND CITIZEN OR FROM SOMEONE ON THE FEDERAL LEVEL OR A SPECIAL INTEREST LOBBYIST? HOW HIGH DO YOU HAVE TO GO TO DETERMINE WHY THIS IS NOW A BILL BEING CONSIDERED IN OUR STATE?

We expect you to PUT MARYLANDERS FIRST and oppose this bill. If a bill does not enhance the life and well-being of us then it shouldn't become law. This bill complicates the lives of children, which does NOT enhance their lives.

Sincerely,

Christine Hunt and Jay Crouthers