



Ella Ennis, Legislative Chairman
Maryland Federation of Republican Women
PO Box 6040, Annapolis MD 21401
Email: eee437@comcast.net

January 27, 2025

The Honorable Vanessa Atterbeary, Chairman
and Members of the Ways and Means Committee
Maryland House of Delegates
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Chairman Atterbeary and Members:

RE: **HB 0156** – Fairness in Girls’ Sports Act -- **SUPPORT**

The 1,154 members of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women most strongly supports HB 0156 to limit membership on interscholastic and intramural Junior Varsity and Varsity teams to biological females.

The Maryland General Assembly’s 2015 “Report of the Task Force to Study Sports Injuries in High School Female Athletes” found that anatomical, neuromuscular, hormonal, and developmental differences between female and male athletes can place the female at higher risk of injury.

<https://msa.maryland.gov/megafile/msa/speccol/sc5300/sc5339/000113/021000/021772/>

A 2021 report in the Journal of Functional Morphology and Kinesiology entitled “A Comparison Between Male and Female Athletes in Relative Strength and Power Performances” reported that significantly greater muscle thickness and muscle length in males play an important role in determining the maximum contraction velocity of the muscle and the range of active force production. The study reported that muscle strength of females is typically 40% to 75% that of males.

<https://www.mdpi.com/2411-5142/6/1/17>

A 2018 report by the National Library of Medicine (Sex Differences in Common Sports Injuries) and a 2023 report by Yale New Haven Health (How Teen Girls Can Prevent Sports Injuries) both concluded that biological males enjoy physical superiority over biological females, resulting in greater susceptibility by females to certain sports injuries.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6138566/>
<https://www.ynhhs.org/articles/how-teen-girls-can-prevent-sports-injuries>

We cannot wait for potentially life-altering injuries to our female high school athletes before acknowledging what research has proven repeatedly. Current and future generations of high school female athletes are relying on us to preserve for them a safe playing field.

Please give a **FAVORABLE** report to **HB 0156**.

Sincerely,
Ella Ennis
Legislative Chairman