January 27, 2025

The Honorable Vanessa E. Atterbeary, Chair The Honorable Jheanelle K. Wilkins, Vice-Chair Members of the House Ways and Means Committee

House Ways and Means Committee Taylor House Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Interscholastic and Intramural Junior Varsity and Varsity Teams - Designation Based on Sex (Fairness in Girls' Sports Act)

Dear Chair Atterbeary, Vice-Chair Wilkins and Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

I support HB 156, popularly known as the "Fairness in Girls' Sports Act." Immutable biological traits dictate that females and males are different and we cannot change these differences by choice. Having respect and consideration for each other is not the issue.

My fear is that, as we allow individuals to choose which teams that they would like to be a member, there will be no need for separate teams and young women will not have the opportunities that prior generations have fought so hard for. In essence, Maryland's General Assembly will turn the clock back to 1960s when young women athletes had few, if any options, to participate in sports, the pre-Title IX (Of the Federal Education Amendments of 1972) days.

Please consider that as more people learn of issues surrounding allowing non-biological females competing on female teams, they are against it. Gallup Research reflects just that (see attached chart).

I urge to support young female athletes and give HB 156, Fairness in Girls' Sports Act, a favorable vote.

Sincerely, Sallie Taylor

1260 Guilford Road Eldersburg, Maryland 21784 Gallup Research Politics June 12, 2023

More Say Birth Gender Should Dictate Sports Participation

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- A larger majority of Americans now (69%) than in 2021 (62%) say transgender athletes should only be allowed to compete on sports teams that conform with their birth gender. Likewise, fewer endorse transgender athletes being able to play on teams that match their current gender identity, 26%, down from 34%.

Americans' Views on Transgender Athletes, 2021 vs. 2023 Next, we have a question about policies for competitive sports that have separate teams for male and female athletes. Do you think transgender athletes should be able to play on sports teams that match their current gender identity or should only be allowed to play on sports teams that match their birth gender? May 2021 May 2023 Change pct. pts. Able to play on teams that match -8 identity Only on teams that match birth +7 62 gender Those with no opinion are not shown. GALLUP' Get the data . Download image