Dear Judicial Committee members,

I am writing in **SUPPORT** of HB0156

I am writing to support HB0156 – Fairness in Girls' Sports Act. This bill provides athletic opportunities for all students while protecting and providing fairness in competition to girls sports by enabling a level playing field where biological girls compete against biological girls only. Girls will continue to have the opportunity to earn athletic awards and scholarships, which will remedy past discrimination.

Studies comparing the performance levels of elite women athletes to men's performance show an insurmountable disparity between them. Males have physiological and performance advantages over females, including cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, and speed/agility. Some prominent injuries seen among girls include ankle sprains, knee injuries, and stress fractures. Finally, girls have higher rates of concussions and post-concussive syndrome compared to males. By passing HB156, this legislation will reduce the potential for injury since teen girls have been shown to be more prone than boys to the most common sports-related injuries.

Please support this important legislation to preserve the hard-earned opportunities for girls to compete fairly in organized high school sports.

Regards,

Rebecca Hamilton

Cecil County Council, District 2