

On behalf of my sister Nickie Jordan, born and raised in Washington County, MD.

I appreciate the opportunity to express my strong opinions regarding the fairness in girls sport act coming for a vote in Maryland.

I graduated from a Maryland high school and University as well as taught in the Maryland Public School System and coached girls' sports. I have also been the owner and operator of a successful personal training business for over 30 years. My Bachelor of Science and Master's degree are in Physical Education. I approach this topic with an extensive personal background as an athlete myself. As a former little league player, track runner, lacrosse player, marathon runner, teacher, coach, trainer and all-around sports and fitness "guru", I have "been there, done that" when it comes to observing, teaching, and evaluating skill levels.

I believe genetically born females should be protected from competing against anyone that was not born female!

While I feel a great deal of empathy for individuals that have been born into the wrong body, there are significant physical differences between individuals born genetically female and those born genetically male. Even when given hormone therapy and support the desire to live as female, there are still too many physical characteristics that render inequalities in relationship to participation in girls' sports.

Genetic males are made up of more muscle mass that cannot be reversed with hormone treatment as well as a size difference that cannot be reversed as to support an equal "playing field".

I believe history has already shown us the inequality that occurs when genetic males have competed in girls' competitions...it's virtually impossible to compete in most cases. Title IX was enacted to support equality in sports opportunities but allowing "others" in girls' sports would create severe inequality and lead to girls' not wanting to participate for fear of failure to measure up next to genetic males. Hormones can only go so far to offer any equity; however the influence of genetics will prevail.

I fear to think what my high school and college sports experience would have consisted of had I been competing with biological males. I may not have gone on to make the career choices I did? I have excelled in the field of sports. I have made it my life! My confidence was through the roof as a young lady bringing home track and field trophies. What would that have looked like if the competition consistently had an unfair biological advantage?