

HB156 Favorable
January 29, 2025

Esteemed Members of the House Ways and Means Committee,

As a voter, taxpayer, parent, and former teacher, I ask your support for HB 156.

88% of Asian parents, 83% of Hispanic parents, 82% of black parents, and 75% of white parents oppose biological males, who identify as females, being allowed to participate on girls' sports teams [CRC Research Poll Dec 2024](#)

There are obvious reasons why it is unfair for biological girls to be forced to compete against biological males. For example, data shows that hundreds of high school boys run faster than female Olympic medalists. High school girls don't stand a chance against them.

Biological male bodies have differences in heart and lung capacity, muscle density, height, strength, center of gravity, and wingspan compared to biological female bodies. (see [Biomechanical Differences Between Men and Women](#)). Gender identity and even hormones and surgery do not erase the innate athletic advantages of biological males vs. biological females. (See [Even After Two Years of Hormone Therapy, Trans Women Run Faster Than Cis Women](#))

Sports are not about gender identity but about physical bodies doing athletic things. It is unfair for biological girls to have to compete against biological males. When they do, concussions and other injuries are more likely. Opportunities and scholarships are unfairly taken from biological female athletes.

Throughout history, women have been marginalized. Girls' and Women's sports exist to give female athletes a place to compete that is appropriate for their biological sex. Biological male athletes who identify as transgender are welcome to participate in boys sports, appropriately competing with those whose bodies, muscles, hearts, bone structure, and lungs are the same as their own.

Courts have ruled against former President Biden's Title IX changes that attempted to redefine the word "sex" to make it include gender identity. This means that allowing biological males in female sports opens our schools up to lawsuits since the practice clearly violates legal protections and privacy rights of girls and women.

For all these reasons, I am asking the Ways and Means Committee to give a favorable report to HB156.

Sincerely,
Rebekah Esko
Ellicott City