

HB 156

Education – Interscholastic and Intramural Junior Varsity and Varsity Teams Designation Based on Sex (Fairness in Girls' Sports Act)

FAVORABLE

I write in support of HB 156, Fairness in Girls' Sports, which ensures only biological females compete in high school varsity and junior varsity girls' sports.

This is NOT about exclusion. This is about science and fairness as male and female bodies are different, regardless of hormone treatments. This is also about protecting the physical safety of our young athletes.

In 2015 the Maryland General Assembly created a task force to study sports injuries in high school female athletes. Their report states that, "*differences between the female and male athlete can place the female at higher risk of certain injuries when competing in high school athletics.*" I hope you will seriously consider this report when you cast your vote in the committee.

Before President Biden left office, his administration reversed their proposal to extend Title IX protections to transgender athletes. This decision indicates that public sentiment and legal pushbacks are influencing the dialogue back toward reasonableness and good judgement. There are 25 states that have already passed laws to protect girls' sports, and Congress will revisit H.R. 734, the Protecting Women and Girls in Sports Act, this year.

This is about preserving the opportunities, achievements and safety of female athletes. I respectfully request your support for HB 156.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
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