

**House Bill 156 - Support**

**House Committee on Ways and Means  
"Education - Interscholastic and Intramural Junior Varsity and Varsity Teams - Designation  
Based on Sex (Fairness in Girls' Sports Act)"**

Please vote for a **FAVORABLE** report for **HB0156**.

This Bill is needed to correct unintended consequences from previous legislation and subsequent regulations.

Current policies flowing down from the Maryland State Department of Education are creating some very bad outcomes:

- Destroying privacy and equality for girls in their formative years
- Intimidating girls from speaking up when they feel uncomfortable
- Stifling free speech rights and harming emotional wellbeing
- Robbing children of their innocence and distorting their reality
- Interfering with girls learning about teamwork, leadership, and physical fitness through athletic programs
- Increasing the risk of bodily harm from sports

There are other ways to provide physical, social, academic, and mental health benefits to students. Helping students to accept and even embrace the truth about their bodies and reality is a healthy way to prepare all individuals to flourish in society.

This Bill will remedy these issues in interscholastic and intramural junior varsity and varsity teams and create a level playing field for everyone to thrive.

Thank you for your consideration,



Lauren Thompson  
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