Favorable Support of HB156 "Fairness in Girls sports"

Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in support of HB156. This is a common sense bill to rectify the harmful policy of letting males in female sports and spaces. I am a mother of 4 daughters and a son. I am a former varsity and collegiate athlete. My mother's generation fought to have the first girl's sports teams and I benefited from playing multiple sports during middle school, high school, and college. Sports for girls and women during formative years enable them to gain confidence and team work skills. This is eroded when a male is on the team or in the locker room.

Letting mentally ill boys and men into girls sports and spaces is predatory, unfair, and dangerous. As the mother of young girls I will not allow them to participate in any activities that include boys or men when it is meant to be for girls only. HB156 will correct the disenfranchisement of our girls. The current practice of allowing males to cheat and lie to take over females' opportunities will be defeated and remembered for the insane and barbaric policy it is.

Respectfully,

Ruth Laughary

Severna Park, MD