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TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION OF SB0050, Education - Interscholastic and Intramural Junior Varsity and Varsity Teams - Designation Based on Sex (Fairness In Girls' Sports Act)

2/18/2026

TO: Chair Feldman and members of the Senate Education, Energy, and Environment Committee

FROM: Mary Beck

Chair Feldman and members of the committee, my name is Mary Beck. Supporters of SB0050 say that it is “not about trans people,” but by attempting to narrow the scope to “biological sex,” it inherently will unfairly impact trans people, which is precisely what supporters of this bill are hoping for. It’s obtusely-veiled transphobia under the guise of protecting girls at the expense of the most vulnerable girls. Those opposing this bill are those who would’ve been directly affected by it as kids, who are raising trans athletes, and professionals providing widely-accepted recommendations from the top medical and psychological associations in our country.

“Biological sex” alone does not determine a person’s body type or physical abilities; hormones play an important role in how children (and adults) grow. A variety of medical interventions, including hormone blockers, can affect how a child develops. Further, children of any gender can have various biological “advantages” or “disadvantages” from their genetics. Bills such as SB0050 also do not account for intersex children and their hormonal and biological variations. All of these facts together show that SB0050 is not intended to protect anyone; rather, it aims to further ostracize transgender and intersex youth with imagined concerns not based in science or reality.

Trans kids just want to be kids, like all of their peers. Kids of any identity deserve to freely participate in the sports without worrying about adults paying too much attention to their genitals or how they are “supposed to” look or act.

Youth sports are supposed to be a place to learn the values of teamwork and community. Without an affirming community of support, according to a study by Ryan, et al. in 2009, transgender and nonbinary youth are eight times more likely to report attempting suicide. The disturbing thought that the Delegates who introduced this bill care more about their flawed understanding of sex and gender, instead of kids dying by suicide, is upsetting on a deep level. Let ALL kids be kids. Please do not pass this blatantly discriminatory bill. Thank you.