

The Honorable Chair
Senator Brian J. Feldman
Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: OPPOSITION of Senate Bill 0050
Education - Interscholastic and Intramural Junior Varsity and Varsity Teams and Sports -
Designation (Fairness in Girls' Sports Act)**

To the Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and esteemed members of the Education, Energy,
and the Environment Committee,

My name is Calvin Schuster, I am a resident of Baltimore, Maryland who resides within
Maryland Congressional District 7 and Maryland Legislative District 40. I am also a student at
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, studying medicine to be able to serve all
members of our community. As a student of medicine, I care deeply about public health and
scientific rigor when it comes to medical research, and because of this I am writing today to
name my opposition to Senate Bill 0050. This bill does not take into account key peer reviewed
scientific literature about the participation of trans people in sports.

Youth sports participation generally improves physical and mental health, providing health
benefits that persist into adulthood.^{1,2} Among transgender youth, sports participation is
associated with improved mental health and overall quality of life outcomes.^{3,4} Given these
benefits, restricting the ability of trans youth to participate in sports may exacerbate health
disparities within this marginalized population. Evidence suggests that exclusion of trans youth
from sports participation can lead to worse mental and physical health outcomes.^{5,6}

Given this evidence and more, professional medical organizations such as the American
Academy of Pediatrics, American Medical Association, Endocrine Society, American
Psychological Association, and American College of Sports Medicine have issued statements in
support of inclusion of trans youth in sports.⁷⁻¹² To oppose this guidance would be to ignore
abundant evidence that suggests that involvement in youth sports improves overall health,
leading to more positive public health outcomes.

For these reasons and many more, **I ask the Education, Energy, and the Environment
Committee to give SB0050 an unfavorable report.**

The views expressed here are my own and do not necessarily reflect the policies or positions of
Johns Hopkins University or Johns Hopkins Health System.

Sincerely,

Calvin Schuster

Maryland Congressional District 7
Maryland Legislative District 40

Citations

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