

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 Lukah Love, and I am a resident of Baltimore City, in Maryland's 45th Legislative District. I am writing to name my opposition to SB0050 the "Fairness In Girls' Sports Act". This bill does not protect girls in sports. Instead, it exposes all girls to more harm by creating an environment of fear, encouraging false allegations, and laying the groundwork for invasive and discriminatory screenings that open the door to abuse by coaches, doctors and other athletic staff.

As an alum of McDonogh School, I was required to participate in sports in order to graduate high school. I am not a particularly athletic person, so finding sports opportunities that I enjoyed - or at the very least, could perform - was no easy task. Had I been required to undergo such invasive and embarrassing measures as outlined in this bill - or worse, if my gender identity didn't adequately align with my genitals and I were not allowed on a team - I likely would have dropped out of McDonogh entirely.

Rather than protecting women's sports, bills like SB0050 bans on trans girls in sports encourage bullying, discrimination, and even violence against women and girls. Subjecting all girls to invasive genital inspections, to determine eligibility increases negative outcomes such as lower graduation rates, increased mental health issues, as well as the well documented risk of athletes being abused by coaches and team doctors.

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

For more information about this position, feel free to contact me at lukahlove@gmail.com. Thank you for your care and attention to defeating this dehumanizing bill.

Sincerely,

Lukah Love
Baltimore City
MD District 45