

SENATOR BRIAN J. FELDMAN

EDUCATION, ENERGY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Senate Bill 50

In Hearing February 18 at 1:00 PM

IN SUPPORT

As a Maryland (Bowie) resident, who is in support of Women's rights, and a follower of Women's Liberation Front, I wanted to express my support for Senate Bill 50, which will ensure equal athletic opportunity for females. This is extremely important to me as women's rights to fair sport play and opportunities are under attack.

Females need separate sports categories defined by their biological sex and not gender. This is the only way to have fair competition across the board, by classifying everyone as biological male/female. Having sports categories designated by biological sex is the only way to be fair to everyone, because all people, regardless of other identifiers, still have an opportunity to participate in athletic opportunities by competing within their own biological sex category.

There are profound differences between males and females biologically. Science has shown that males are athletically superior in terms of power, strength, speed, endurance and body size. Even when males and females are of similar age and training, males outperform females by 10-40% depending on the sport. Many studies have shown that athletic performance is biologically driven in the womb, early childhood, and through puberty into adulthood. It cannot be reversed. Estrogen therapy, although it can limit, cannot undo male athletic advantage from being born biologically male.

Girls' sports divisions created by Title IX, were created to properly acknowledge the hard work of female athletes. However, since 2014, at least 112 male athletes took podium wins in women's competitions in Maryland alone, including in high school competitions. This is a shame as those are achievements that were stolen from girls and young women who are supposed to be protected by federal Title IV. I have two young daughters (18 and 13) who may someday lose a competition spot or placement due to non-biological females being allowed into their sports category.

Please protect my daughters and all girls' sport by urging Maryland's general assembly to vote YES on SB 50. Voting yes, will ensure fairness and safety for my own daughters in Maryland. Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

Melissa Solares (Bowie, MD)