

The Honorable Jheanelle K. Wilkins
House Ways and Means Committee
130 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
Testimony of Trans Maryland

IN OPPOSITION TO

House Bill #63: Education - Interscholastic and Intramural Junior Varsity and Varsity Teams and Locker Rooms - Designation Based on Sex (Fairness in Girls' Sports Act)

To the Chair, Vice Chair, and esteemed members of the House Ways and Means Committee:

My name is Alex Haraseyko and I am writing to voice my opposition to House Bill 63. I am disturbed by this attempt to codify violence against children and teens by forcing them to use the wrong locker room and join the wrong sports team.

I fail to understand how the ends of this bill could justify its means, as its enforcement would require adults to scrutinize the sexual characteristics of minors. But whether the sponsors intend it or not, the effect of this bill will be to punish children, cis and trans alike, by effectively withholding participation in school sports activities from any child whose appearance deviates from an increasingly antiquated model of binary gender. State- and school-sanctioned "sorting" of children based on their appearance and presumed gender is unsafe and inappropriate, and I am opposed to this treatment of children in our schools. For this reason I am opposed to House Bill 63.

I urge you to vote unfavorable on HB63, thank you for your time.