

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMPILATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Submitted to the Committee on Higher Education
For SB 15

Compiled on: Monday, May 1, 2023 9:15 PM

Note: Comments received by the committee reflect only the view of the individual(s) submitting the comment, who retain sole responsibility for the content of the comment. Neither the committee nor the Texas House of Representatives takes a position on the views expressed in any comment. The committee compiles the comments received for informational purposes only and does not exercise any editorial control over comments.

Hearing Date: May 1, 2023 10:00 AM

Lenora Greene

Concerned parents and taxpayers living in Round Rock ISD
Austin, TX

We support this bill for fairness and practical safety for ALL who participate in intercollegiate sports.

Beverly Roberts

Concerned Women for America of South Texas
Houston, TX

Dear Committee Members,

This is a common-sense bill that MUST be passed to protect the integrity of women's sports. If I identify as a state representative, will I be allowed to enter the House chamber, sit on committees, and vote on legislation? Of course not! So, how is it that a man, with full male characteristics, can simply state he is a woman, and supposedly intelligent people go along with this blatant lie. Stop the insanity! Protect women's sports.
Thank you.

Jake Wilson

Self - CPA
Fort Worth, TX

In support of women athletes such as Riley Gaines, I support SB15, and thank Senator Middleton for authoring it.

Mary Smith, MS

Concerned Women for America/CWA and self
Arlington, TX

I support SB 15 and I support our female athletes. Title IX was supposed to have protected women and allowed them access to sports competition. It is important to keep the law

Denise Ray
Self
Round Rock, TX

I SUPPORT SB 15. This Bill affects many people we know. We have spent years teaching our young women to value themselves. We have gone through extraordinary efforts to teach them strength and self-worth and to embrace their unique beauty, quality, and attributes. We need to safeguarding girls and women and protect their opportunities. My own child was a high school athlete, a swimmer, and she would have been at an unfair disadvantage had she been expected to swim against a biological male, who possesses many attributes that gives him an edge over her.

Jeffrey Ray
Self
Round Rock, TX

I SUPPORT SB 15. Keep higher level education sports and intercollegiate athletic competitions separate according to biological sex. Biological men and biological women should not be competing against one another.

Hang Le
self
Round Rock, TX

I SUPPORT SB 15 saving women's sports. Please allow biological females and women to compete in athletic competitions separate from biological males.

Hung Le
Self
Round Rock, TX

I support SB 15. Do not allow biological men and women to compete against one another in higher ed or intercollegiate athletic competitions.

Kathy Young, Ms.
Self
Feiendswood, TX

All students should compete as males or females based on their biological birth. To not do so is completely unfair and discriminatory towards girls and women. This madness has gone on long enough. Untold numbers of girls and women have lost scholarships, lost competitions, through no fault of their own because a biological male beat them. Stop this madness now. We are all watching.

Allison Pasternak
Self
Austin, TX

I support this bill

Alan Hardin
Self- Insurance Technical Leader
Deer Park, TX

If biological men don't want to compete with other biological men then create a third category for them to compete against themselves. Men have no business competing in women's sports and vice versa.

Patricia Moore
HCRP Precinct Chair 0483
Houston, TX

When transgender athletes compete against women, women's sports are no longer women's sports; they become unisex athletic events. When males reach puberty, their bodies begin producing large amounts of testosterone, the original, natural, performance-enhancing drug. It gives them increased strength, endurance, power, size and muscle mass, with less fat and bigger and denser bones, which can support bigger muscles and internal organs. Is it fair to simply pretend away undeniable biological differences in the name of a political ideology which will serve to restrict a space so hard won by women who struggled for it for so many centuries? Allowing biological males to compete against biological females is causing injuries. It's unfair and it's dangerous.

Kim Roland
Self / Retired Firefighter
Lockhart, TX

I absolutely SUPPORT SB15 and appreciate Senator Middleton's efforts to protect girls and women in Texas. It is pathetic that our society has emboldened and allowed individuals with delusional thinking, perversion or outright cheating intentions to infiltrate locker rooms, showers and team sports which women have fought for the right to compete! This absurdity must be stopped and I pray our Legislators from every partisan group will vote unanimously to pass SB 15. May GOD bless those of you who protect the girls and young women in our State.

Jaye Price
Self
Georgetown, TX
Please vote for this bill.

Regina Holden
Self
Georgetown, TX
Vote yes

Jessica Overgoner
Self
Liberty Hill, TX

For safety reasons biological sex needs to be identified and persons grouped separately based on biological sex when competing in sports. There is an unfair advantage when males are mixed with females during competitions. Not only unfair but unsafe.

Marga Matthews
Self
Baytown, TX

We need to only have women compete with women.
Men are not women and will never be, no matter what operations they have done to themselves. We do not want biological Women ever to be replaced in any sport that rightly is for Women only!!!

Mark Goloby
TC Technologies
Houston, TX

This is an incredibly important Bill to protect girl's sports in Texas at the collegiate level.
As we saw with Will Thomas competing in the women swimming events in the NCAA.
To add insult to injury, these young women were forced to disrobe and shower in front of this full functioning male.
Those young women who objected were vilified and threatened with loss of scholarships and other retribution.
There is no way this should be allowed in Texas and continue in Texas.
Please pass this bill out of committee to be voted for in the House and passed for Abbott's signature

Michael Montgomery
Myself
Georgetown, TX

Yes. All should compete based on biological sex. Male only in biological male sports and biological female in women's sports

Cindy Keefe
Self
Liberty Hill, TX

Compete as your biological gender

Ron Clark
Self
Georgetown, TX

Please support this for our girls

Valerie Clark
Self
Georgetown, TX

Yes! Compete based on biological gender.

Rod Keefe
Self
Liberty Hill, TX

I vote Yes for this Bill

JoAnn McCracken
Myself/ retired
Houston, TX

Protect women and their rights. Stop man in skirts from cheating young women. This is a disgrace. If these men in skirts want to compete, let them compete against other men in skirts. It is unfair. It is robbing young women of benefits and honors. It is a disgrace.

Kevin Robbins
Myself
Baytown, TX
I support this bill

Melissa Rowell

self

Houston, TX

While I am in favor of this bill and think it is only fair for students to compete in sports based on their biological sex, there seems to be two possible ways to get around this. "(2) if the student's official birth certificate (1) is unobtainable, another government record that accurately states the student's biological sex. (d) For purposes of this section, a statement of a student's biological sex on the student's official birth certificate is considered to have correctly stated the student's biological sex only if the statement was: (1) or (2) modified to correct a scrivener or clerical error in the student's biological sex."

Also, it seems like this is not exactly a complete sentence starting with "is unobtainable," (2) if the student's official birth certificate described by Subdivision (1) is unobtainable, another government record that accurately states the student's biological sex.

William Ely

NA

Cypress, TX

I am FOR this bill.

Jean Davis

Self

Fort worth, TX

My granddaughter graduates in May from TCU having attended on a full scholarship in her sport. Had she competed against transgendered male to female in high school she may not have obtained that scholarship, and if she competed in college with transgenders she likely would not have done so well. At no time in human history have we dealt with the issue of transgenderism, but we do today because many doctors only see the money to be had from their naive patients and their parents. Please vote to require one's biological sex a determinning factor for college competition.

Tom Nobis
'self' and I am retired
Houston, TX

I am Tom Nobis representing myself. I am FOR SB15 by Sen. Middleton, Bettencourt and others Relating to requiring a student of a public institution of higher education who competes in intercollegiate athletic competitions to do so based on the student's biological sex.

We're here to finish the work started in the 87th Legislature 3rd special session with HB25 that required public school students to compete in interscholastic athletic competitions based on biological sex. That bill handled kindergarten through 12th grade.

This bill seeks to protect the rights given to female athletes by Title IX.

Title IX was created in 1972 to provide an opportunity for girls to participate in athletic activities. Are we going to remove those opportunities?

A wide-ranging study from the United Kingdom concluded that transgender female athletes — i.e., biological males who identify as female — do have physical advantages over biological female competitors when "being bigger, stronger, fitter, and faster" makes a difference.

From the recommendations of the Study "the Guidance concludes that the inclusion of transgender people into female sport cannot be balanced regarding transgender inclusion, fairness and safety in gender-affected sport where there is meaningful competition. This is due to retained differences in strength, stamina and physique between the average woman compared with the average transgender woman or non-binary person assigned male at birth, with or without testosterone suppression."

Of Known cases in the United States, Connecticut and Pennsylvania come to mind where we have seen in many instances where women participating in athletic activities who have won most of their events when competing against other biological women but when forced to compete against biological males lose every time. The amount of testosterone in transgender athletes far surpasses that in biological women giving them an unfair advantage.

This becomes an issue in fairness.

Don't allow Texas to become Connecticut or Pennsylvania.

Although not a right specified in the United States Constitution, the courts have deemed a right of privacy exists. This bill would eliminate the concern among female athletes regarding privacy that arises if this bill does not pass.

With this bill having passed the Senate, I urge that you pass this bill out of committee to Calendars and unto the House Floor.

Thank you Chairman and members for allowing me to speak to you today.

Sincerely

Tom Nobis
SD7 SREC committeeman

David Nash
Self / Retired
Harper, TX

For SB 15. Please pass out of committee ASAP.

Beatriz Cannon
Self
Houston, TX

Do we really need to ask you to do the right thing and pass this bill? It's unbelievable it's come to this in this country to debate weather a man can play as a woman in Women Team. Appalling. Do the right thing. Vote to keep men from infringing in the girls teams.

Have a good day

Melissa Pemberton
Self
Round Rock, TX

Please do not let biological boys into sports with girls!

Jessica Pryor
Self
Round Rock, TX
SUPPORT

Wesley Pryor
Self
Round Rock, TX
Support

Rita Carlson
Swlf
Round Rock, TX
Support

Don Carlson
Self
Round Rock, TX
Support

Martha Bardwell
self
Houston, TX

I urge you to vote FOR this important bill to assure that participation in sports is based on biological sex.

Sherry Spencer
none
Mineola, TX

Women should only have to compete against other women in women's competitive sports. Common sense has to rule on this issue. Title IX brought us closer to equality in sports for women, but allowing biological males to compete because they identify as women is just not fair to women. Please vote accordingly.

Ava Storbeck
Citizen
Corpus Christi, TX

please allow students to compete based on their biological sex. please don't change what has been worked so hard for by so many students Only compete based on their biological sex . Thank you so much.

Susan Muncaster
None
DECATUR, TX

It is unfair to allow biological men to compete against women. It does not matter how they believe they identify. This insanity needs to stop.

VANESSA WENNEKER

self

Round Rock, TX

As a mother of 2 teenager daughters that have poured their sweat and tears into playing high level club soccer their entire lives, and my oldest just committing to play in college, I just can't even believe this is a topic...allowing biological males who like to wear dresses and pretend to be women play against biological females in sports. I advocate strongly for students to compete exclusively according to their biological sex accurately assigned at birth. The physical impact is more obvious; it cannot be ignored that biological males possess an unfair advantage over biological females in stature, speed, endurance, bone density, musculature, and mass. The emotional impact of females being forced to compete with their male counterparts also cannot be understated. Going into a competition understanding the disadvantageous landscape after maximum preparation efforts and rigorous training only to potentially suffer defeat at the hands of an individual who possesses a biological edge can have negative emotional effects on the athlete both before and after competition events. Equally important, I have grave concerns on the mental and behavioral health of our biological female athletes should they be forced to compete with biological males. The resulting frustrations, feelings of inadequacy, low self-esteem, and lack of self-worth can potentially lead to poor mental health and other risk factors associated with it. In the end, we can expect higher female attrition from women's sports along with the heavy toll on the overall well-being of our young women and biological female athletes. As a society, we have come a long way in affirming the uniqueness, strength, and value of women. To allow athletic competition to occur between biological males and biological females would lead to severe societal regression and ultimately send a loud and clear message of discrimination toward our females. As parents, we have worked incredibly hard to instill a sense of pride, strength, ability, and confidence in our female daughters. We have always imparted the message that they are capable. Even when competing with other biological females who have an advantage over them, we have impressed on them that it is still a level playing field. However, to force our biological female daughters to compete with biological males would result in a degradation of not only the culture of athletics, but most importantly our women's self-worth.

Mary Whitehill

self, retired

Plano, TX

I implore you to pass SB 15 in the House to support women & girls in women's sports! A biological man is stronger, bigger, and faster than a woman, which is why common sense AND science dictate separate teams of women playing against women & men competing against men. It is appalling that men are being allowed to CHEAT our girls out of awards, winning in head to head competitions against women. Privacy in locker rooms is also a real issue! It is unconscionable that men are allowed to be in young girls' & women's locker rooms. Stop this attack on our females in sports!

Patricia Morrison

self/marketing

AUSTIN, TX

Allowing males to compete in women's sports unfairly disadvantages talented, gifted, extremely hard-working female athletes. The hopes, goals, and dreams of far too many girls and women are being shattered.

The whole reason sports have always been separated by biological sex is because of the obvious, undeniable, significant physical differences between men and women. The truth is that males are built differently than females. It's biology. It's science. When we allow males to compete against females, these differences give trans identified male athletes an unfair advantage that biological girls and women simply can't overcome. No matter how hard they train, no matter how much time and effort they pour into their sports, no matter how great the sacrifices they make to be their best.

Cheryl Simpson

Self

Bonham, TX

Im asking you to vote yes and uphold this decision to protect young women's sports! SB 15 requires that participation in intercollegiate sports competitions be based on the student's biological sex.

Kind regards

Cheryl Simpson

Elka O Carroll

Self, writer/editor/activist

Dallas, TX

I can't believe our country has gotten to the point that we have to fight for our right to participate in sports, which are PHYSICAL, with people of the same PHYSICAL make up. This country is a joke. Men and boys do not belong in women's sports or in their dressing rooms. And our tax dollars are paying for this?

For real. What a joke!

Keep people who are born with male bodies out of physical competitions with people who are born with female bodies. Thanks--

Kim Jorns, Mrs

Self

Ft Worth, TX

This bill should not be necessary, however in these times and against such social pressures from the Queer Community, we must protect our youth!

Girl's sports should be just that!

The challenge from the left is just another way for them to try to takeover our institutions! And it's not fair and even dangerous to allow! Please protect young women from this insidious attempt to propagandize and ruin Girls Sports/ scholarship programs, in the name of so-called progress! Thank you!

Patricia EZELL, Ms

retired Secondary Teacher self

Housotn, TX

As a former swimmer in Competitions in high school, adult swimming meets around Texas and Worlds in Utah, I am asking you to consider the bill that will exclude trans men from competing against biological women. It is wrong and needs to be addressed not only in our higher education institutes but in high schools and elementary levels as well. This will be the end of women competing in sports if this is not addressed. Thank you for your consideration.

Joan West

Self

Tyler, TX

I support this bill. Thank you Joan West

christine LITTLEFIELD
LITTLEFIELD RANCH
COPPERAS COVE, TX

To our awesome republican leaders: Thank you for having common sense and doing what is right and just for women everywhere. The male/female body are born different and strength measurements are greater for the male body. To keep all representation on the same playing field it is very important that natural born females compete against natural born females. I want my three granddaughters to have a just and safe future in every way possible.

I have incubated turkey eggs and even on day one of hatching the little toms are strutting around, those hormones are active at day one. I know this is quite unusual to give this example, we are agriculture oriented and it is so obvious that nature has a definite difference.

GOD BLESS AMERICA!!

Amy Klinker

Self, Sales Training for Dell Technologies

Cedar Park, TX

As the mother of a 15 year old daughter who was assigned “female” at birth (as evidenced by her biological, chromosomal, and external sex organs), I advocate strongly for students to athletically compete exclusively according to their biological sex accurately assigned at birth. More specifically, I affirm that women, that is those who were assigned female according to their biology and visually inspected sex organs assigned at birth, be allowed to compete in intercollegiate or public institutions of higher education athletics with other women who fall under the same criteria of being assigned female at birth. Also, as the mother of a daughter who competes in basketball as well as water polo at the secondary level, both on private club and public high school teams, I stand on the knowledge that to allow those assigned biological males at birth to compete with our young women would result in devastatingly negative effects for these young women. The physical impact is more obvious; it cannot be ignored that biological males possess an unfair advantage over biological females in stature, speed, endurance, bone density, musculature, and mass. The emotional impact of females being forced to compete with their male counterparts also cannot be understated. Going into a competition understanding the disadvantageous landscape after maximum preparation efforts and rigorous training only to potentially suffer defeat at the hands of an individual who possesses a biological edge can have negative emotional effects on the athlete both before and after competition events. Equally important, I have grave concerns on the mental and behavioral health of our biological female athletes should they be forced to compete with biological males. The resulting frustrations, feelings of inadequacy, low self-esteem, and lack of self-worth can potentially lead to poor mental health and other risk factors associated with it. In the end, we can expect higher female attrition from women’s sports along with the heavy toll on the overall well-being of our young women and biological female athletes. As a society, we have come a long way in affirming the uniqueness, strength, and value of women. To allow athletic competition to occur between biological males and biological females would lead to severe societal regression and ultimately send a loud and clear message of discrimination toward our females. As parents, we have worked incredibly hard to instill a sense of pride, strength, ability, and confidence in our female daughters. We have always imparted the message that they are capable. Even when competing with other biological females who have an advantage over them, we have impressed on them that it is still a level playing field. However, to force our biological female daughters to compete with biological males would result in a degradation of not only the culture of athletics, but most importantly our women’s self-worth.

Lisa Beasley

N/A

Galveston, TX

I support this bill.

Sue Anne Weiser
self concerned parent/ grandparent.
ROWLETT - WATERVIEW, TX

Competition should be based on biological sex. Our 2nd daughter was a wrestler in Middle & High school. In middle school she often wrestled boys. In middle school there were many boys in her 102lb weight class. They were not that much taller either. By 8th grade the boys were getting much stronger. She made it to state 3 of her 4 HS years. She had a lot of extra training in upper body strength. She would not have progressed that far if boys were allowed to wrestle in her weight class of 108lbs. You might think there are not many boys in the lower weight classes but her father weighed 120 when he joined the army at 18 yrs old. She was also valedictorian of her class of 893 students. Losing under unfair conditions would not have sat well with her.

Linda Durnin
self
Austin, TX

Dear Senator Middleton,

Please vote in favor of SB15. Biological men should not be competing in Women sports. Women have worked hard to be able to compete in their sport against other women. Men/Trans men should not be allowed to compete in Women Sports. Women should not have to compete with the men/Trans for women sport scholarships. Also these men/trans should not be allowed in Women Bathrooms or Lockers. We need your help!

Sincerely,
Linda Durnin

Cathy Stroud, Mrs.
Self
Gainesville, TX

I urge you to pass SB 15 for the very best outcome for young people. Men and women athletes who have a love for a sport and talent spend endless hours training and improving their skill. Many depend on scholarships for their college money. . It is only right that individuals can only compete in sports according to their own biological sex so the competition can be fair and the outcome valid. That is the only fair and good way. Thank you for serving our state. We must protect young people.

Ceila Cravey
Self, VP Administration
Baytown, TX

I am FOR this bill. Biological females should not be forced to compete against biological males in atheltic competitions. It is unfair and sometimes dangerous.

Mary Michael Townsend
Self / business development
Ft. Worth, TX

I am wholeheartedly in favor of college students in athletics competing on the basis of BIOLOGICAL sex. How one "feels" has ZERO bearing on reality. Male/female is not subjective. It's as fundamental to the objective reality of human existence as night/day and up/down. It is not only WRONG to have biological males competing against biological women; it is unethical and, considering all the work that these female athletes have put into their sport, EVIL. Please, please, please protect biological sex distinctions in college athletics.

Pamela St Claire
self/retired mother of 2 daughters
The Woodlands, TX

I support SB 15, protecting women's sports.

Diane Mohler

Self

Houston, TX

This Bill must pass or women's sports will forever stop.

Heidi Nykaza

Self

Georgetown, TX

Athletic competitions should be based on biological sex. Women fought hard for rights and they should not have to worry about competing against biological males in female athletics.

Letitia Humphrey

self - I own a women's fitness business

Huntsville, TX

God made our bodies different - please support this - don't make women be punished for being women!

Amy Clapper

Self

Georgetown, TX

It is imperative to women's sports that this bill be passed. Texas should lead the way in making sure women continue to have a level playing field for sports and are protected from being forced to compete against genetic men who have more muscle mass and lung capacity that makes women unable to compete in their sport.

Noelle Fitchett
YWA
College Station, TX

Women could not compete in high school or college athletics a few generations ago. The historic Title IX civil rights law allows us to see female athletes pursuing their dreams. The protections afforded to us as women in 1972 are now at risk of being obliterated again by prioritizing biological males and their personal identities over women.

As the older sister of three younger brothers, I know that their physical capabilities surpass my own. Despite the amount of grit or passion I may have, my physical capabilities cannot compare to theirs. My brothers are taller, faster, and naturally stronger. I cannot imagine competing against them in sports.

There is a strong correlation between women who compete in sports and their high career achievement levels. Women's sports are empowering. When we allow men self-identifying as women to compete in women's sports, there is a crushing feeling of defeat before the game, race, or match has begun

Acknowledging the fundamental biological differences, specifically the physical advantages of males over females, is not hateful. Some advocates have argued that "women's sports thrive when trans-inclusive policies are in place." This claim is entirely false, as we have seen collegiate athletes such as Lia Thomas, a biological male, rise from ranking No. 462 as a male swimmer to ranking No. 1 after switching from the men's to the women's swim team.

In 2022, because Thomas competed in the NCAA D1 Women's Swimming and Diving Championships, Virginia Tech's Reka Gyorg was denied a spot in the 500-yard freestyle finals. University of Virginia's Emma Weyant was robbed of her rightfully earned first-place title. Young Women for America witnessed this injustice first hand when we rallied

outside Georgia Tech's natatorium a year ago this week. The emotional impact on parents, athletes, and coaches was crushing. Without sex-based sports categories, female athletes will no longer have equal opportunities in sports. Men are faster, have larger hearts and lungs, increased muscle mass and strength, stronger bones and different skeletal structures, and are inherently more competitive and aggressive.

Studies have shown a 10-12% performance gap between elite male and female athletes. In 2017, Olympic, World, and U.S. Champion Tori Bowie's 100 meters lifetime best of 10.78 seconds was beaten 15,000 times by men and boys.

Policies that allow biological males to compete in women's sports are an injustice to women. The physical advantage of biological males ignores the countless hours of training, sacrifice, and dedication made by female athletes. Allowing men in women's sports is an outrage and a betrayal of women's rights. This is discrimination toward women in the 21st century. This is an attack on the progress we have made as a society, an attack on science, on women, and who God created us to be.

Debbie May
Private citizen of texas
Houston, TX

It is a true disregard for the great strides women have made in all areas to not support all efforts to require participation in sports be based on biological sex of participant. If we fail as a society to embrace truth based on facts and science, we are doomed. The evidence regarding physical disparities between men and women is well documented and impacts negatively future triumphs for women and perpetuates the false narrative of equity and inclusion. Women are the real losers in this false narrative and will sustain not only immediate losses in possible collegiate scholarships, but if we don't change this narrative, we may see less female participation in sports overall. How can we not support women and girls at this time and for the future of womens' sports

KAY WEBB
self
Round Rock, TX

I highly support this bill. - pls vote for it. Women athletes should NOT be forced to compete with male athletes - no matter what male athletes call themselves.

Tomi Porterfield
Self
Pearland, TX

Please pass this bill. It is very unfair to women athletes who have to compete with biological men.

Rhonda Anderson
Self
Longview, TX

I am in favor of SB15, all around our nation, women are under attack in collegiate sports by allowing biological men to rob them of titles in their sport. Also having to share locker rooms without having a choice.

D Dillard
Self
Round Rock, TX

As a strong and proud Texas native woman that grew up playing on the boys baseball team, and a current mother of both male and female athletes, I support this bill. Do not undo the years of progress we have made to protect women in sports. Say yes to SB 15!

Amy Bridges, Mrs
Self
Longview, TX

Please support SB 15. Without these protections there will be no fair competition in sports for our daughters. Thank you

Paul Yamarick
Self
Moulton, TX

I strongly endorse SB15. Sex is binary, always has been binary and always will be. The two are designed for different physical functions with unique and separate capabilities.

Vicki Palatas
Self
Wichita Falls, TX

Despite the mantra of the "feminist" movement that men and women are exactly the same in all ways, it has become clear in the last many months that men have an advantage over women in athletic endeavors. Fairness demands that women compete against women and men against men.

Here are some possible reasons a man would want to pretend to be a woman in order to compete against women would be:

1. He lacks the skill or talent to win against those of his own gender and wants to be a "winner" at any cost, no matter how humiliating.
2. He wants to dominate women without repercussions due to mommy issues.
3. He wants to eliminate women from athletic competitions entirely for the same reason.

My bet is on number 1.

It is against all reason to allow men to compete against women and needs to be stopped immediately.

These people are suffering extreme mental illness and should be treated by mental healthcare professionals, at a minimum. Send them to good deliverance churches and let Jesus heal them.

Bruce Johnson
Self
Medina, TX

I support SB 15 because women in college deserve the same equal athletic opportunities they're afforded in high school. SB 15 is needed because:

- Every female athlete—including those in college—deserves to compete on a fair and level playing field.
- Sadly, we continue to see growing instances nationwide of males dominating women's athletic competitions, especially in college. Allowing men to compete in women's sports shatters dreams and steals opportunities.
- Title IX guarantees that every female—from kindergarten to college—receives equal opportunities in education and athletics. Texas already fulfills the promise of Title IX to Texas girls in K-12, and that promise shouldn't end when a young woman graduates high school and starts competing in college.
- The entire purpose of women's sports laws is undermined if we protect fairness for the 18-year-old in high school but refuse to protect her when she steps on the collegiate playing field.

For these reasons, I ask the committee to vote in favor of SB 15.

JoAnn McCracken
Myself/ retired
Houston, TX

I strongly support this bill. It is very unfair for men in skirts to compete against Young women. They are thieves. They are stealing honors and accolades from our young women. Please pass this bill to save women's sports.

Karen Halsema
Self. Retired
Round Rock, TX

I strongly support SB 15 by Middleton. Women's athletics should be for biological females only. Please vote for this. Thank you.

Laurel Woytek
Round Rock ISD
Round Rock, TX
Support

Margaret Tanner
Self
Bridgeport, TX

Female athletics are a pathway to development, opportunity, and success for girls and women in America.

By allowing biological males who identify as "women" to compete in "women's" sports removes fair competition. Equality in women's sports is under threat.

Science, biology, and common sense expose the unfair advantage biological male athletes possess when pitted against female athletes in competition. We must stand on the side of equality and protection for female athletes based on inherent and distinct biological differences. We must insist on fairness and equity in women's sports at every level.

Puberty, testosterone, and innate biological differences give physical advantages to males that cannot be erased. Inherent male and female distinctions range from chromosomal and hormonal differences to physiological differences. Males have more upper and lower body muscle, a larger skeletal structure, larger hearts, greater lung capacity, and greater fast-twitch muscle fiber for explosive power.

Despite activist opposition, majorities of Americans across demographic groups oppose allowing male-bodied athletes to compete in sports for women and girls.

One-third of states have enacted laws to ensure participation in girls' sports is based on female biology, not "gender identity." Texas needs to join these states in SAVING WOMEN'S SPORTS and the opportunities afforded to women athletes.

I urge you to please protect our women and Women's sports and only allow biological women to compete in women's sports.

Blake Johnson
Self
Amarillo, TX

Title IX guarantees that every female—from kindergarten to college—receives equal opportunities in education and athletics. Texas already fulfills the promise of Title IX to Texas girls in K-12, and that promise shouldn't end when a young woman graduates high school and starts competing in college.

Sophia Green
Self
Garland, TX

I support the protection of born female sports not to be mixed with transgender males!

Brenda Shepherd, Mrs
myself, teacher
Wichita Falls, TX

Please VOTE YES to SB 15 by Middleton. It is terribly concerning that one should try to cancel women's sports for real women.

Gene Holley, Jr.
self/pastor
Wichita Falls, TX

I support SB 15 because women in college deserve the same equal athletic opportunities they're afforded in high school. SB 15 is needed because:

- Every female athlete—including those in college—deserves to compete on a fair and level playing field.
- Sadly, we continue to see growing instances nationwide of males dominating women's athletic competitions, especially in college. Allowing men to compete in women's sports shatters dreams and steals opportunities.
- Title IX guarantees that every female—from kindergarten to college—receives equal opportunities in education and athletics. Texas already fulfills the promise of Title IX to Texas girls in K-12, and that promise shouldn't end when a young woman graduates high school and starts competing in college.
- The entire purpose of women's sports laws is undermined if we protect fairness for the 18-year-old in high school but refuse to protect her when she steps on the collegiate playing field.

For these reasons, I ask the committee to vote in favor of SB 15.

Beverly Bettis, Mrs.
Self, Retired Teacher
Fort Worth, TX

It is devastating and unfair for female athletes to compete against biological males. Female contests are not designed to affirm someone's gender preferences. Please protect and honor our female athletes and their hard work and sacrifices by supporting SB15!

D'Anne Thompson, Mom
Self
Buchanan Dam, TX

Please do not allow Men in Women's sports. What happened to title XIV?
Thank you.

Keri Ann Thompson
Self/Data Analyst
Post, TX

As a former high school and junior college athlete, I urge you to vote "Yes" on SB 15. If SB 15 is not passed, our college and university women will be required to share locker rooms, titles, and competition records with biological men whose innate physical capabilities give unfair advantages to them. Women will be denied personal dignity, safety, titles, and records, without which many can suffer irreparable financial and professional disadvantages and, in some cases, physical harm. I am 6'2" and was quite strong for a female. Playing summer rec basketball, I was one of four girls who stayed in and competed in the league. We were consistently warned by coaches that we faced almost certain injury if we chose to play against male athletes. The coaches understood the biological reality, and they were right. I walked away from every game bruised and beaten up- much more so than when I played against girls. Thankfully, Texas already acknowledges that reality for high school students. That's a good first step, but we must go further. Graduation from high school does not change biological reality. It is up to us to protect these young women physically in their locker rooms, in hotels as they travel for games/meets, and in their athletics dorm rooms. It is up to us to protect them from losing scholarships, starting positions, and records. It is up to us to protect their dignity and modesty. Title IX was intended to give girls/women fair and equal play. Allowing transgenders to compete is not fair to the women on the team, and it does not give an equal playing field. Just as many girls walked away in summer rec once they saw that boys were playing, many girls will give up when they see a biological male on the court or field- knowing that they are already beaten. Please protect these young ladies by voting "Yes" on SB 15. Thank you for your time.

Cindy Middleton

Self

San Angelo, TX

Please vote yes on SB 15. Texas must protect all womens sports and keep the trans insanity out of it.

If SB 15 is not passed, our college and university women will be required to share locker rooms, titles, and competition records with biological men whose innate physical capabilities give unfair advantages to them. Women will be denied personal dignity, safety, titles, and records, without which many can suffer repairable financial and professional disadvantages and, in some cases, physical harm.

Karen Sinclair

Self

Missouri city, TX

It is crucial that the insanity stop and biological women are only competing against biological women. Please protect the opportunity of college women to have an opportunity to compete based on their biological sex. Stand UP fo women's right and give biological women back their voice

Clarissa Grindle

Self

Round Rock, TX

I support. Please do what's right and allow only biological boys to compete with boys and biological girls to compete with girls. It's how God designed us.

Betzy Day

N/A

Brady, TX

Trans people do not have a place in women's athletics. Women need to compete with women and men with men.

Katarzyna Kielbus

Self

Rockwall, TX

all students athletes should compete based on their biological sex . It's not right especially for female athletes loosing against biological men , everyone who study biology and genetics on university level know how different our bodies are build . Female body doesn't recover as fast as male , that's just basic I could bring 100 different reasons .
Let's protect future of our kids and grandkids and let them compete at sport based on their biological sex !!!

Kathleen Kielbus

Self

Rockwall, TX

I am a female athlete and don't agree for them to compete with me, i will never be able to get in there level bc i'm not born with testosterone!! and other advantages they have such as height and other biological things!!

Edwin Owens, Dr.

Self - Consultant

Iola, TX

I support SB 15 because women in college deserve the same equal athletic opportunities they're afforded in high school. SB 15 is needed because:

- Every female athlete—including those in college—deserves to compete on a fair and level playing field.
- Sadly, we continue to see growing instances nationwide of males dominating women's athletic competitions, especially in college. Allowing men to compete in women's sports shatters dreams and steals opportunities.
- Title IX guarantees that every female—from kindergarten to college—receives equal opportunities in education and athletics. Texas already fulfills the promise of Title IX to Texas girls in K-12, and that promise shouldn't end when a young woman graduates high school and starts competing in college.
- The entire purpose of women's sports laws is undermined if we protect fairness for the 18-year-old in high school but refuse to protect her when she steps on the collegiate playing field.

For these reasons, I ask the committee to vote in favor of SB 15.

Robert Flanary

H.C. Pct 800

Houston, TX

Rep Middleton,

Title 9 was created for the benefit of females, and by allowing trans males to compete as females totally negates what females have fought for.

If males want to compete as trans females, then a Trans division in sports needs to be created so they can compete amongst themselves, and thus create an equal playing field. This is the best way to preserve biological female sports and allows trans people to still participate in sporting events.

So, this why me, and the people in my Pct support the passing of SB 15.

Respectfully,

Robert Flanary

Pct 800 Chair

Judy Williams, Mrs.

Self. Reading tutor.

Decatur, TX

I respectfully request that you pass SB15.

I have compassion for men who are confused about their gender, but it is not the responsibility of government to give such individuals an unfair advantage by allowing them to compete in women's sports events. I do not believe it is right or fair to allow biological males to compete in women's sports competitions for ANY reason.

Thank you for making a common sense decision to pass SB15.

Monique Little

Self

Rockwall, TX

I feel that a person born biologically as a male should not be allowed to compete in female sports as a female. Biologically a male's body is made differently than a female and therefore poses an unfair competition in sports for female athletes.

Stacy Penney, Tarrant County Precinct Chair

Self

MANSFIELD, TX

Please pass SB 15! This is very important for women in sports!!!

Martha Davidson

self

Houston, TX

It is unconscionable to permit biological males to compete in women's sports.

Martha Davidson

self

Houston, TX

Biological males should not be permitted to compete in women's sports.

Robert Autry

Self

Amarillo, TX

I'm in favor of this common sense bill. This will protect the integrity of intercollegiate sports! Please vote for this bill.

Shannon Letchford

Myself

Round Rock, TX

To whom it may concern,

I find it deeply troubling that as a parent of a biological 13 yo daughter, that I even have to write a letter in defense of her: on the field, in the pool, and as recent incidents would show, in the locker room and shower. Common sense has left us and there is no explanation that any trans or trans ally can give that makes the pushing of their agenda anywhere near ok. The only thing they can do is resort to calling us transphobes or other derogatory names because they have no real, logical arguments. They know they have an unfair advantage competing against biological girls and they don't care. They're cleaning up at the podiums with their new records and gold medals and know full well they can't do the same competing against their own sex. It's not fair to the girls who work hard to compete. My sincere belief is that since it is not going to be fair to one group anyways, it needs to be against these trans athletes. There is zero way to determine if they really are trans or if they're just playing the system. The system needs to stand for those we know are NOT playing the system. It needs to stand for girls and women. PERIOD! If trans want to compete, they can create their own field and compete against their own kind. That is the only fair way to go about this. Any trans record and/or medal needs to be stripped and awarded to the next women who were in line.

Kathleen Jerding -Stern

self - CPA

Montgomery, TX

I strongly support SB 15 and the proposed requirement that participation in intercollegiate sports competitions be based on the student's biological sex.

Lisa Mercado

Self

Royse City, TX

I am 100% for this bill. I can't even believe this topic is up for debate. A biological male will always be stronger, and faster than the female. As a parent of a female competitive swimmer, I can't even understand how this is not common sense. Please do not rob our female athletes of their hard work.

David Sims
self - retired
Huntsville, TX

VOTE "YES" on SB 15

Christine Muat
myself
Cedar Park, TX

PLEASE PROTECT WOMEN! It saddens me that I even need to write this. ALL females deserve to be safe and compete with other biological female...a woman! More and more you see men literally beating the tar out of women in sports. For the many many years that women fought for our rights as women to vote, own property etc this is an absolute assault. PLEASE PROTECT US

Denise Williams
Alliance Defending Freedom
Lubbock, TX

I support SB 15 because women in college deserve the same equal athletic opportunities they're afforded in high school. SB 15 is needed because:

- Every female athlete—including those in college—deserves to compete on a fair and level playing field.
- Sadly, we continue to see growing instances nationwide of males dominating women's athletic competitions, especially in college. Allowing men to compete in women's sports shatters dreams and steals opportunities.
- Title IX guarantees that every female—from kindergarten to college—receives equal opportunities in education and athletics. Texas already fulfills the promise of Title IX to Texas girls in K-12, and that promise shouldn't end when a young woman graduates high school and starts competing in college.
- The entire purpose of women's sports laws is undermined if we protect fairness for the 18-year-old in high school but refuse to protect her when she steps on the collegiate playing field.

For these reasons, I ask the committee to vote in favor of SB 15.

Katarzyna Krajewski
Self
Fate, TX

Outrageous why's happening now.

Joanne Norman, Mrs.
Myself
Fort Worth, TX

No men in women's sports!

Alan Norman, Dr.
Myself
Fort Worth, TX

No (biological) men in (biological) women's sports!

Necia Brounty, Ms

Self

San Antonio, TX

It's extremely critical that women be protected both in their endeavors as athletes, as well as, in their privacy in bathrooms and locker rooms. Keep these institutions safe for our girls and young women.

Stephen Armstrong

Self

Keller, TX

I support SB 15 because women in college deserve the same equal athletic opportunities they're afforded in high school. SB 15 is needed because:

- Every female athlete—including those in college—deserves to compete on a fair and level playing field.
- Sadly, we continue to see growing instances nationwide of males dominating women's athletic competitions, especially in college. Allowing men to compete in women's sports shatters dreams and steals opportunities.
- Title IX guarantees that every female—from kindergarten to college—receives equal opportunities in education and athletics. Texas already fulfills the promise of Title IX to Texas girls in K-12, and that promise shouldn't end when a young woman graduates high school and starts competing in college.
- The entire purpose of women's sports laws is undermined if we protect fairness for the 18-year-old in high school but refuse to protect her when she steps on the collegiate playing field.

For these reasons, I ask the committee to vote in favor of SB 15.

Mary Wylie

NA

Lubbock, TX

I totally support the passage of SB 15 which requires that participation in intercollegiate sports competitions be based on the student's biological sex. It's past time that protecting women's sports be addressed & laws passed to protect our women athletes from unfair competition in intercollegiate sports by biological males.

Gwen Bullock

Myself

Houston, TX

We understand that the biological male is by birth and hormones stronger than the biological female. We must not allow a natural male to compete in female sports. This will destroy women's sports and discourage girls from pursuing sports since they will never have the opportunity to win against a male competitor. Stop this from occurring in women's sports. Thank you.

Belinda Frisk

blank

New Braunfels, TX

I support this bill. It is critical to protect our women athletes from unfair competition in intercollegiate sports by biological males.

leslie wentworth

self

round rock, TX

my 3 daughters benefitted from being involved in many different sports throughout their school years. They gained confidence and learned sportsmanship, among other things, through their involvement! They however never had to compete against boys. I am a nurse and understand the physiological differences between the sexes. My girls were and are strong ladies. I now have 2 granddaughters that I believe deserve the same chances to compete in sports as their mothers! Please support SB15 and protect women's sports!! Men should not be allowed to dominate woman's sports!

Sarah Gentry

Self

Austin, TX

I DO support any bill, that requires students to compete based on their God given biological sex. Biological men men should not be allowed in women's sports for intercollegiate athletic competitions or any competition. Biological males have male hormones that they are born with making them males which has unfair advantage in women's sports. Men are made different than women. Confused men choosing to dress up as women or taking women's hormones does not make them a women. They should not be allowed to undress, change, shower, or be in a women's locker room at all. As a biological woman and a mom, we MUST protect our daughters and girls of all ages in their schools, in their sports and especially their privacy from this perverted view of what it is to be woman. We cannot accept this as normal. We MUST protect the integrity of women's competitions across the board. So I support any bill that requires you to complete based on your biological sex.

Karin Heifrin

Concerned Women for America

Temple, TX

Please vote yes to protect women's sports!

Faith Payton

--None--

Fort Worth, TX

I feel that this is very important to pass for the protection of our female athletes in our educational system.

James Ransdell

Self

Seguin, TX

Please protect our women athletes from unfair competition in intercollegiate sports by biological males. Please pass HB 15.

Debbie Juhlke

My Family

Round Rock, TX

I'm asking you to
Support this bill.

Gerri Barrick

Self Quality Improvement Consultant

Belton, TX

Please vote yes on this bill. Men and women have different chromosomes which affect strength, endurance and ability. Men are designed biologically to be the stronger sex and allowing them to compete against females gives them an unfair advantage and ruins the chances for females to become the winners they work hard for. If people want to compete as transgenders then we need a separate class of competition. So we need male only competition, female only competition and transgender only competition.

Hans Meinardus, Mr.

Self - Exec Director of a non-profit youth camp

Grapeland, TX

I commend the truths encapsulated in SB-15, and fully support the effort to safeguard the right of biological women in higher education to personal dignity, safety, titles, and records, without which many can suffer repairable financial and professional disadvantages and, in some cases, physical harm. Sharing locker rooms, titles, and competition records with biological men whose innate physical capabilities give unfair advantages to them is neither compassionate nor is it sustainable as it flies in the face of natural law, common sense, and biological reality. In the end, truth and reality always win out. Thank you.

Sharon Loveall

Self

Fort Worth, TX

This should be a no-brainer and it is embarrassing that we even have this up for a vote. Men and women are biologically different. It doesn't make any difference if a man decides he wants to be a woman - he will always biologically be a man, with all of the characteristics a biologically, God-made man has. God-made men have no business competing with God-made women. As a God-made woman, I am tired of the attacks on God-made women, taking away our hopes and dreams and hard work only to be destroyed by a man pretending to be a woman because he failed at being a man. If a God-made man wants to pretend he is a woman, let him compete with other God-made men who are pretending to be a woman.

Angela Martinez

self / homemaker

Allen, TX

My name is Angela Martinez and I am a former collegiate athlete in support of SB15. I had the opportunity to compete four years here in Texas at the University of Texas at Arlington in XC and track. While at UTA, I won multiple individual Conference titles, was named Southland Conference Female Athlete of the Year and UTA Female Athlete of the Year, was a National XC qualifier, and earned All American honors in Outdoor Track & Field in the 10K, I share all of this to convey that I relate to the dedication and commitment that our collegiate women put in their sport to compete at the highest levels.

As a collegiate athlete, I put in thousands of miles, endured strenuous workouts, and dealt with injuries and setbacks. I was disciplined and dedicated to those practices that would bring the success mentioned above and even years after graduation, I can say I would do it all over again as would my teammates. Our female athletes today continue to put in the same work and discipline to achieve similar goals and more.

For most of us, sports have always been an invaluable part of our lives. We are forever grateful for the opportunities that the passage of Title IX in 1972 gave to us as female athletes. Sports gave us our voice and built our confidence, it taught us life lessons that we use years after graduation, and it allowed us to build a special bond with our fellow female teammates that few get to experience.

It is both disappointing and frustrating to hear former collegiate athletes, like Riley Gaines, sharing their experiences of having to not only compete alongside but also share private spaces with biological males allowed to compete in our sports. It is also disappointing to see these women lose spots on the podium, championship titles and records to men.

These women are not asking for special treatment, but simply want a fair playing field and for the integrity of collegiate women's sports to be upheld and protected. I believe that sports are for everyone and all should be given the chance to participate, but we must also recognize and honor the vast differences between male and female athletes. I ask that you not let Title IX and all the opportunities it has afforded female athletes like myself to be eroded in the state of Texas and would ask that you support SB15.

Thanks for your time and thanks for your service to our great state!

Kristin Kepler

Self

Austin, TX

I strongly support this bill. Our society is in a quick state of decay because we have chosen to throw truth out the window. Men have no business competing against women in sports.

Mark Becerra

self, sales

Brenham, TX

Dear Sirs / Madams -

Thank you for your service to the people of the great state of Texas.

It is beyond high time to protect (BIOLOGICAL) women's rights in intercollegiate sports here in Texas. Biological (by birth, on the birth certificate) females only should compete against biological (by birth) females, period. I am flabbergasted and extremely irate that we even have to TALK about such a thing. It is ESTABLISHED SCIENCE that biological males possess well-known physical advantages over biological females (larger heart and lung sizes, higher red blood cell count), advantages which will cause these confused, glory-hungry MEN to decimate women's sports here in Texas, just like fire ants have decimated our quail and rabbit populations. STOP THESE MEN NOW. PROTECT THE LADIES FROM INTERLOPER, CONFUSED MEN.

Thank you very sincerely,

Mark Becerra

900 Geney Street

Brenham, TX 77833

Tommie Armenta

self

El Paso, TX

I support SB 15 because women in college deserve the same equal athletic opportunities they're afforded in high school. Allowing men to compete in women's sports defeats the purpose of having women's only sports.

Brandy Dail

CWA

Allen, TX

Please protect our female athletes with the bill SB 15 by prohibiting male-born athletes from entering women's sports as transwomen. Trans women, who are biological males, should not be competing against Biological females who are obviously created different and which is why we currently have sports for both female and males. It is not fair for biological women to compete against a biological male.

Jennifer Lee, Mrs.

Concerned Women for America

Ben Wheeler, TX

Women should compete against biological Women. Men compete against biological men. That is all. There is to this!

Heather Cooper, Mrs.
self, business administrator
Iowa Park, TX

I support SB 15 because women in college deserve the same equal athletic opportunities they're afforded in high school. SB 15 is needed because:

- Every female athlete—including those in college—deserves to compete on a fair and level playing field.
 - Sadly, we continue to see growing instances nationwide of males dominating women's athletic competitions, especially in college. Allowing men to compete in women's sports shatters dreams and steals opportunities.
 - Title IX guarantees that every female—from kindergarten to college—receives equal opportunities in education and athletics. Texas already fulfills the promise of Title IX to Texas girls in K-12, and that promise shouldn't end when a young woman graduates high school and starts competing in college.
 - The entire purpose of women's sports laws is undermined if we protect fairness for the 18-year-old in high school but refuse to protect her when she steps on the collegiate playing field.
- For these reasons, I ask the committee to vote in favor of SB 15.

Kathryn Pritchett
Self
Houston, TX

Biological born males should not be allowed to enter and compete with biological born females in any female competitions.

Jana Vinson
Pampa Education Foundation
Pampa, TX

Please support this bill! We must protect our students and children!

Tamara Coleman, Mrs
Self
Richmond, TX

No biological males in women's sports whatsoever in any capacity, way, or form. NO! It is dangerous on every level. Please do not ask women to undress and change, or shower with men. That is preposterous.

On the field, a male having the capacity to kick, throw, hit, bat, ect harder - most especially on women's smaller fields - makes it more dangerous.

In college softball, the average female's exits velocity is around 80mph. In college baseball, you have a lot of guys hitting over 100MPH. Add to it a male's larger muscle mass and denser bones versus a woman's smaller muscle mass and lesser bone density, this is creating a physically unethical and immoral playing field. I'm not sure how you can sign off on this knowing how dangerous it is and how inappropriate of a situation it is for the locker rooms.

Lastly, we would never just tell a person who wants to cut off their healthy arm to go ahead and hack away, but rather we'd push them toward solid mental help. In the same way, the individuals who want to come into the locker room and be naked with young women or play on the field and steal away records and scholarships from young women who've worked for YEARS to earn, we'd recognize that something was amiss in them, and steer them to help, but certainly not steer them to innocent women who do not deserve this treatment.

NO BIO MEN IN FEMALE SPORTS!

kerry incavo
self; homemaker
Houston, TX

Women have made too much progress since Title 9 and it cannot be stated more emphatically: Competition in scholastic sports (K-12, college) needs to be FAIR. Biological men cannot compete against biological females. There are a host of reasons why this bill must pass. But the most important is the issue of FAIRNESS.
Pass SB 15.

Todd Onderdonk, Mr.
Self / Advisor
Colleyville, TX

I support SB 15 because women in college deserve the same equal athletic opportunities they're afforded in high school. SB 15 is needed because:

- Every female athlete—including those in college—deserves to compete on a fair and level playing field against, and only against, members of the same biological sex.
- Sadly, we continue to see growing instances nationwide of males dominating women's athletic competitions, especially in college. Allowing men to compete in women's sports shatters dreams and steals opportunities.
- Title IX guarantees that every female—from kindergarten to college—receives equal opportunities in education and athletics. Texas already fulfills the promise of Title IX to Texas girls in K-12, and that promise shouldn't end when a young woman graduates high school and starts competing in college.
- The entire purpose of women's sports laws is undermined if we protect fairness for the 18-year-old in high school but refuse to protect her when she steps on the collegiate playing field.

For these reasons, I ask the committee to vote in favor of SB 15.

Brooke Reed
Self - homemaker
Missouri city, TX

I support SB 15 because women in college deserve the same equal athletic opportunities they're afforded in high school. SB 15 is needed because:

Every female athlete—including those in college—deserves to compete on a fair and level playing field.
Sadly, we continue to see growing instances nationwide of males dominating women's athletic competitions, especially in college. Allowing men to compete in women's sports shatters dreams and steals opportunities.
Title IX guarantees that every female—from kindergarten to college—receives equal opportunities in education and athletics. Texas already fulfills the promise of Title IX to Texas girls in K-12, and that promise shouldn't end when a young woman graduates high school and starts competing in college.
The entire purpose of women's sports laws is undermined if we protect fairness for the 18-year-old in high school but refuse to protect her when she steps on the collegiate playing field.
For these reasons, I ask the committee to vote in favor of SB 15.

Justin Reed

Self

Missouri city, TX

I support SB 15 because women in college deserve the same equal athletic opportunities they're afforded in high school. SB 15 is needed because:

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- Title IX guarantees that every female—from kindergarten to college—receives equal opportunities in education and athletics. Texas already fulfills the promise of Title IX to Texas girls in K-12, and that promise shouldn't end when a young woman graduates high school and starts competing in college.
- The entire purpose of women's sports laws is undermined if we protect fairness for the 18-year-old in high school but refuse to protect her when she steps on the collegiate playing field.

For these reasons, I ask the committee to vote in favor of SB 15.

Lisa Cox, Mrs.

Self

Shallowater, TX

Please vote YEs on SB 15. Biological men should Not be able to share locker rooms or compete in Women only sports.

Mande Kalbfleisch

self- business owner

Denison, TX

As a mother of 2 biological males I know first hand that they are stronger and more physically able then most women their same age. A biological male should NOT be competeing against a biological female nor should a biological female be competing against a biological male. The male will always have the advangtage due to his physical build and strength. There is a great danger of injury to the female in this situation. We have seen in numerous examples already that femals are getting hurt by volleyballs being spiked too hard, etc. Allowing biological males to compete in womens sports or vice versa in a injustice to both mens and womens collegiate sports.

Katherine Hagood

self

Fort Worth, TX

As a parent of 5 children and now 6 grandchildren, I feel very strongly about this bill. It is very obvious that biologically boys are stronger that girls! There is plenty of science to prove this. It is not right for a young girl who has work hard to excel in a sport to have a young man, who has decided he wants to be a girl, compete against her. Not to mention the issue of showering together. This is just simply wrong!

I strongly encourage you to do the right thing and support SB 15.

Rhonda Ward

Self - Real Estate Appraiser

Nacogdoches, TX

I support this bill. Biological males have no place in women's sports, period!

Rhonda Anderson

self

LONGVIEW, TX

I fully support SB15 and protecting Women's sports. Texans overwhelmingly want to see fairness in sports, these female athletes train many years to get to compete at the NCAA level, it's not fair that a biological male be able to come in and deny them opportunities for scholarships and medals. You don't have to be a Dr. to know the physical advantages that a biological male has over a biological woman. Texas will not succumb to a woke ideology and ruin Women's sports. We support you in supporting SB15. Thank you for your YES vote.

William B McWhorter

Self

Longview TX, TX

I respectfully urge favorable consideration and passage for this important bill. We must do everything in our power to protect the integrity of women's competitions, and sending a strong message that men cannot compete in their sports. We owe it to the women who work hard throughout their lives to compete at a high level, whether in high school sports that were protected last session, and college athletics this session. It is more than unfortunate that we must have to act in order to make sure this isn't allowed, but we have an opportunity to help save women's sports. Thank you for your work on this critical issue, and I hope we can send this to the full House, and then onward to Governor Abbott for his signature into law.

Kathryn Schrubba, Mrs.

Self, Retired

Hurst, TX

Please uphold the protections for biological women competing in collegiate female sports, by prohibiting male-born athletes entering and competing in women's sports as transwomen. It is totally unfair that transwomen be allowed to compete as biological women. It truly undermines the whole aspect of good sportsmanship and is similar to a schoolyard bully intimidating someone smaller or weaker than themselves in order to win the fight. I wonder how male athletes would accept it if women were suddenly able to gain 100 pounds, be able to fight like a bear, run like a cheetah, and beat them at their sports? When they compete as a female, they are not playing fair, and everyone knows it, and so do they! Let's return fair sports behavior to the competition field. I hope you will let your conscience be your guide when you vote YES FOR SB 15.

Mary Lynn Raia

self

Sugar Land, TX

I support SB 15 because women in college should be able to compete with biological females exclusively. SB 15 is needed because:

Every female athlete deserves to compete against other biological women.

Men are going to dominate women's athletic competitions because they are created with more strength than women.

Title IX guarantees that every female will be treated equally in both education and sports. Texas already fulfills the promise of Title IX to Texas girls in K-12, and it needs to continue through college.

Please vote in favor of SB 15.

jack & roach

Self

League City, TX

Every female athlete—including those in college—deserves to compete on a fair and level playing field.

- Sadly, we continue to see growing instances nationwide of males dominating women's athletic competitions, especially in college. Allowing men to compete in women's sports shatters dreams and steals opportunities.

- Title IX guarantees that every female—from kindergarten to college—receives equal opportunities in education and athletics. Texas already fulfills the promise of Title IX to Texas girls in K-12, and that promise shouldn't end when a young woman graduates high school and starts competing in college.

- The entire purpose of women's sports laws is undermined if we protect fairness for the 18-year-old in high school but refuse to protect her when she steps on the collegiate playing field.

Andrew Pierce

Self I am a Teacher

Lorena, TX

Please Support SB 15. Women can get seriously hurt by having men playing in their sports. I had a student get a head injury and miss over a week of school because she was hit with a volleyball in a high school competition. She is alright now, but I can only imagine how bad that would have been if a biological male had spiked the ball at her.

Joy Roberts, Mrs

Self / teacher

Howe, TX

I am a mother of 2 boys. I STRONGLY support women and ONLY biological women in women's sports at all levels of competition.

Mary Ford

Personal

SHERMAN, TX

I support SB15

Zach Poling, Rev

Self

Dorchester, TX

Please pass this bill and protect Texas women athletes from men who have a mental illness that want to compete against them in sports.

Darla Rostyne

Grayson Christian School

Denison, TX

I support SB 15

Sadie Thomas

self

Pottsboro, TX

I support SB 15.

Cindy Thompson
Self
Whitewright, TX
I support this bill

Laura Fincher
Self
Howe, TX
I support SB15

Vinay Bagare
Self
Austin, TX

It will be unfair for a biological male to compete in women's sports.

Susan Exner, Lt Col
Self—retired
Houston, TX

Biological women should only compete against other biological women, not men posing as women.

Sonya Richardson
Self
Sherman, TX

Stop taking away women's sports! If men who claim to be women want to compete- they can compete against each other! You are telling girls that no matter how hard you train ...a man will always win over you! Stop this madness.

Neal Trantham, Mr.
Self...Retired
Denison, TX

I support SB 15 because I think it is very very unfair for a biological male to compete against women!! I have a granddaughter that plays softball. How would any of you feel if it was your daughter or granddaughter!

Kim Trantham
Myself
Denison, TX
I support this

John LaMarr
Myself
Plano, TX
I support SB 15.

Greg Nelson
Self,retired
Mansfield, TX

I support SB15 because women in college deserve the same equal athletic opportunities as women in high school

Debra Hornsby
Self
Friendswood, TX

I support SB 15 because women in college deserve the same equal athletic opportunities they're afforded in high school. SB 15 is needed because:

- Every female athlete—including those in college—deserves to compete on a fair and level playing field.
- Sadly, we continue to see growing instances nationwide of males dominating women's athletic competitions, especially in college. Allowing men to compete in women's sports shatters dreams and steals opportunities.
- Title IX guarantees that every female—from kindergarten to college—receives equal opportunities in education and athletics. Texas already fulfills the promise of Title IX to Texas girls in K-12, and that promise shouldn't end when a young woman graduates high school and starts competing in college.
- The entire purpose of women's sports laws is undermined if we protect fairness for the 18-year-old in high school but refuse to protect her when she steps on the collegiate playing field.

For these reasons, I ask the committee to vote in favor of SB 15.

Candy Allen
Self
Rockwall, TX

NO JUST NO. These are women's sports competitions. Men are not women. They can identify however they prefer, but men have no business participating in women's sports. They are not women. If women are forced to compete against biological men, where we know they have more strength due to their natural hormonal makeup then there is zero point in participating at all. Might as well just do away with sports competitions all together verses allowing this.

Fred Maier
Self
Wichita Falls, TX

I support SB15 and ask you to also..

Billie Traywick
Self Retired
Willis, TX

I support this bill

Steven Zewe, Sr
Retired
Columbus, TX

Students who compete in sports at school should compete with others that are the same biological sex!

Lisa Kruger
Texas women
Point, TX

Keep biological men out of women's sports. Speak the truth a man cannot become a woman.

Janet Bridge
Self-retired
Spring, TX

Women have and are still fighting for a place in sports, especially the star athletes that want to go on to be professionals. To allow transgender athletes to compete with the opposite birth sex is wrong. We know we are built differently than those born male. Let us compete fairly. History will record this.

Louie Jenkins
self, retired
Dallas, TX

Allowing biological males to compete in women's sports insults our moms and sisters and does them real harm.

Phyllis Merryman
Self
Hemphill, TX

We, as Americans, as Texans, as civilized humans, must stop pandering to those with mental problems. They need help to resolve their issues, not government and institutions to help further their delusions. We also must protect our youth, not only from unfair competition, but from the brain washing effects of pretending the abnormal normal. Act now please for the protection of our children.

Brandywine Reyes
Self
Cypress, TX

I support SB15. We need to protect the sanctity of women's sports. It's not about feelings or identities. It's about basic biology. The male species and female species are not created equally, and we can "identify" our way out of that truth all day long but the fact doesn't change that men and women are not the same biologically and thus will perform accordingly.

Barbara Woodroof
Self
Gunter, TX

Please pass this bill and make women's sports women's sports. As a biology teacher who taught genetics, the fact of the matter is that there is a difference in genetics. Women have the XX chromosome which makes her a female and men have the XY that make them male. It is a little more complicated than that but unless the surgeries to change a man into a woman involve a complete change in the genes they are not women and should not play in women's sports.

Francis Tyminski, Mr
self
Rockwall, TX

Title IX was established to promote opportunities for females to compete in sports, competing against women. It was based on equal rights for women. Do not dilute this.
Promoting transgender "rights" by damaging biological woman rights should be unconstitutional. You don't get a right by taking someone else's away.

If confused males want to compete let them set up their own leagues, as has been done with Special Olympics.
Lesser skilled males can always try minor league teams if they can't win based on merit against elite members of their own biological sex.
Look at semi-pro football.

Confused males or deviants should not be allowed in women's locker rooms or on the same playing field. Keep the playing fields level for woman v woman.

Rhonda Hurley, Ms.

Self - Retired

Bellaire, TX

Hello,

My name is Rhonda Hurley. I am against women having to compete against men in sports. This is completely unfair and will discourage women in reaching their potential in sports. My daughter was a very good athlete and she has a daughter who has just begun competing in sports. I don't want my granddaughter be deprived of the same opportunities in competitive sports that my daughter was given. My family and I very much support SB 15 by Middleton.

William Chapman, Mr.

self

Kingwood, TX

This bill is important because allowing biological males to compete against biological females is unfair and potentially dangerous to biological females. Women have worked decades to establish women's sports where they can compete and enjoy the rewards of competition in a fair and safe way. Allowing biological males, whatever they think they are, to compete in women's sports, and use the same shower facilities can only harm the women. This has played out nationally, and it has cost women their health and opportunities. Please stop this madness.

Ralph Mollet

self/retired

Abilene, TX

This bill is needed to protect girls from injury in their sports, to give them a fair chance to compete, and to insure they feel safe in their locker rooms, showers, etc. We owe them that! If transgender athletes want to compete, why not explore creating leagues/sports specifically for them where they can play against one another using whichever gender they prefer? That could be presented in a future bill, but this one needs to be passed now.

Laurie Nickell

Self/2 Girls in sports

Greenville, TX

I urge you to pass SB 15 authored by Sen. Mayes Middleton to protect opportunities for women and keep them safe by requiring college athletes to participate on the sports team that correspond to their biological sex.

Any competitive athlete will tell you that there is no fair competition between men and women at any level. Identity has never had a place in sports and changing political climates is not a basis for making it so.

As a high school and college athlete myself, I understand the need to have a fair competitive atmosphere and I am asking you to safeguard these ethics for my children who are competing in sports.

MONTIE SHELTON

none

Huntsville, TX

It is biologically unscientific and completely unfair to allow biological males to compete against females in sports. Why should the feelings of delusional people overturn centuries of science and observation?

Kenneth Gaby, Mr.

Self

Belton, TX

SB 15 is a must pass Bill to protect women's rights to compete in sports without male competitors. Transgenderism is fake and total madness and evil. Transgenderism is a social fad that has no basis in truth or science. Transgenderism is a term designed to obscure TRUTH. Support of transgenderism is an attempt to make truth whatever these followers want truth to be. And following, make morals whatever they want morals to be. This is a blatant attempt to establish mankind as it's own arbiter of truth and moral values. This attempt will end in ruin for America as all other like attempts have destroyed civilizations from within. I strongly urge you to pass SB 15 and protect God's established truth.

Jill Hilber

Self

Aubrey, TX

As a woman- I am adamantly opposed to the erasure of Title IX and of women. Enough of the madness. I support SB15

Sarah Williams

Self, law student

Jefferson, TX

I support SB 15 because women in college deserve the same equal athletic opportunities they're afforded in high school. SB 15 is needed because:

- Every female athlete—including those in college—deserves to compete on a fair and level
- Sadly, we continue to see growing instances nationwide of males dominating women's athletic competitions, especially in college. Allowing men to compete in women's sports shatters dreams and steals opportunities.
- Title IX guarantees that every female—from kindergarten to college—receives equal opportunities in education and athletics. Texas already fulfills the promise of Title IX to Texas girls in K-12, and that promise shouldn't end when a young woman graduates high school and starts competing in college.
- The entire purpose of women's sports laws is undermined if we protect fairness for the 18-year-old in high school but refuse to protect her when she steps on the collegiate playing field.

For these reasons, I ask the committee to vote in favor of SB 15.

John Allison, CDR

Self

Flower Mound, TX

It is possible to support individual, personal choice without allowing a biological and perpetually unfair competitive advantage and destroying women's sports and locker rooms. Supporting this bill allows just that and as the father of a competitive female athlete, my sincere hope is you will be a "yes" vote on SB 15.

James Moyers

Self

Kerrville, TX

It is a disgrace that SB 15 is required to protect women's sport and women. Unfortunately SB 15 is required to protect women from those who don't recognize women are biological different from men.

Arianne Minks, Ms.

Self; Law Student

Wimberley, TX

It is imperative that we protect women's sports and women athletes. Collegiate women athletes deserve to compete against the same scope of athletes that they have competed against throughout their entire careers. Title IX guarantees that every female—from kindergarten to college—receives equal opportunities in education and athletics. Texas already fulfills the promise of Title IX to Texas girls in K-12, and that promise shouldn't end when a young woman graduates high school and starts competing in college. The entire purpose of women's sports laws is undermined if we protect fairness for the 18-year-old in high school but refuse to protect her when she steps on the collegiate playing field.

Irma Delgado

Self

El Paso, TX

Biological Men competing in women's sports is so outrageously wrong. Completely unfair. They are taking opportunities away from women. Please vote for this bill.

Ethan Armstrong

Self

Watauga, TX

I support SB 15 because women in college deserve the same equal athletic opportunities they're afforded in high school. SB 15 is needed because:

- Every female athlete—including those in college—deserves to compete on a fair and level playing field.
- Sadly, we continue to see growing instances nationwide of males dominating women's athletic competitions, especially in college. Allowing men to compete in women's sports shatters dreams and steals opportunities.
- Title IX guarantees that every female—from kindergarten to college—receives equal opportunities in education and athletics. Texas already fulfills the promise of Title IX to Texas girls in K-12, and that promise shouldn't end when a young woman graduates high school and starts competing in college.
- The entire purpose of women's sports laws is undermined if we protect fairness for the 18-year-old in high school but refuse to protect her when she steps on the collegiate playing field.

For these reasons, I ask the committee to vote in favor of SB 15.

Elton Page

Self

Cotulla, TX

Texas citizens worked for decades to insure equal rights and opportunities for female athletes, and now those rights are being dismantled and tossed out by foolishly allowing biological males to compete as females and to inappropriately use the same locker rooms and showers. This is as wrong as wrong can get, and I would have withdrawn my daughters from public schools had this occurred when they were still in school. No amount of wishful thinking or even physical surgical alterations will ever change the innate physical and mental differences between biological men and women, giving biological men a permanently tremendous and unfair advantage in sports and other physical endeavors. This must not be allowed to happen in Texas and I urge legislators to VOTE FOR SB15.

Bradley Radke

Self

Spring, TX

When schools and society ignore physiological differences between the sexes, it is girls and women who pay the price, losing opportunities to compete, podium spots, scholarships, as well as Olympic team and educational opportunities. Texas led the way in protecting girls' sports in 2021 and it is incumbent upon us to expand those same protections to our female college athletes.

Dave and Rita Cross, Mr.

Retired

Lakeway, TX

We are amazed and saddened that there are biological men competing in women's sports! Talk about racism from the Left! We strongly encourage that fairness, not politics, be seriously considered in the Legislature! With sincere gratitude!

Ana Warren, Mrs

Self- retired

Arlington, TX

I support this bill as it is morally wrong and would set a bad precedent to allow anybody to compete with others not of the same biological sex.

Kendall Sullivan

Self, Engineer and Father of a Female Athlete

Houston, TX

Biological males (whether transitioned or not) have a superior physical advantage in sports, which removes the fairness in competition. In 2021 the Texas Legislature passed the Save Girls' Sports Act to protect girls' sports. Now we have an opportunity to expand those protections to our college athletes. Female sports should be protected at all levels, including higher education.

Harry Gilson, Mr.

Self - retired

Sugar Land, TX

Trans women athletes should not compete in women's sports; they have the physical advantages of men and will ruin women's sports.

Lesley Pyle

Self

Spring, TX

Yes!! They should compete based on sex at birth 100%

Aurora Zimmerman, Mrs.

Self/retired

Missouri City, TX

Stop trying to erase the true female gender.

No males, no men in women's sports periods. Please get real and use common sense. Our Constitution has not and will not change in Jesus' name.

Jeff Holler

Alliance Defending Freedom

Fort Worth, TX

- Title IX guarantees that every female—from kindergarten to college—receives equal opportunities in education and athletics. Texas already fulfills the promise of Title IX to Texas girls in K-12, and that promise shouldn't end when a young woman graduates high school and starts competing in college.

Betty Ford

My self

Tomball, TX

Please pass this very important Bill. Girls lives will be changed for the better if this passes. If it does not, many girls will not compete in sports when they know that they have no chance to win.

It has been shown that sports are very important in giving those who compete confidence, ability to work with others and pride.

Please do not take this opportunity away from these young women.

Thank you very much.

Sylvia Coulson

Self

Waxahachie, TX

I strongly support this bill. Men should never be allowed to compete against women. There is a reason Men and Women are in separate sports categories.

MARTY PEARSON

self

FORNEY, TX

I'm sure we have ALL watched, or at least been made aware of, situations in which a biological male couldn't accomplish much when competing against other biological males, so these males decide to pretend they're women and complete against women. These bigger, stronger, faster men make a mockery of ALL athletics - both male and female! I strongly urge you to vote to require both male and female athletes to compete based on their biological sex. PLEASE SUPPORT SB 15!

Christopher DiCesare

Self, retired, parent-grandparent

Northlake, TX

SB 15 passed the Senate for all the right reasons. I fully support this bill and urge the Higher Education Committee to do the same. Women's sports are about more than trophies. It presents opportunities for important life skills such as leadership, perseverance, and teamwork that will help them to succeed later in life.

John Chapman, Mr.

Self

New Braunfels, TX

I support SB 15 for fairness in sports for all biological females.

Brian Curnutt

Self

FATE, TX

I strongly support legislation intended to protect the rights of biological women from having to compete against biological men who identify as women (transgender) due to the clear, unfair advantages that have been demonstrated in recent public competitions. This is a clear violation of the original intent of Title IX federal legislation. I also support legislation that protects the safety and security of biological women from intrusion by biological men who identify as women (transgender) into private places, such as bathrooms, locker rooms, etc. as that violates the rights of the vast majority of the public whose personal beliefs about modesty are offended when some with opposite sex genitalia present themselves in those places.

Richard Lang

Self

Pearland, TX

I strongly support SB15 to protect women from biological men in sports.
Biological men should compete with other biological men, biological women with other biological women.
God gave us different bodies and capabilities for a reason and we should respect differences.

We need to protect our daughters from the madnesses of wokeness that has plagued schools and sports and flooded the youth with sexual dysphoria.

Pass SB15 now.

Verna Blatz

Self

Round Rock, TX

Save Women's sports. The fact that biological males can go into female bathrooms and lockers defies all common sense. The safety issues that have and will continue and increase. If you have a daughter, a niece, and a sister that this will apply to please protect them. Biological males should not be allowed anywhere near the women's areas to change or shower. They should be the ones that should be going to a different area to change so that the other women/girls feel safe. This is all must common sense.

Ann Thompson

Self

Portland, TX

Please support the integrity of intercollegiate athletic competitions by helping pass this bill requiring athletes to compete based on their biological sex. I would like to see this requirement apply to all sports at every education level, but perhaps there are other bills that cover these.

Eileen Hightower
Heritage Action (self) Housewife
Temple, TX

SB 15 by Middleton should be passed, to ensure men and women, in public institutions of higher education who compete in intercollegiate athletic competitions, and should always compete based upon their biological sex.

God created men and women differently. The woman was called the weaker vessel whom He wanted to be protected. SB 15 ensures she is protected and treated fairly. Men pretending to be women have found it more than convenient to identify as a woman, by dressing as a woman, wearing makeup as a woman, but it does not change the fact of XY Chromosomes God gave men, and cannot be changed, as He ordained in the beginning. The woman, likewise, created from Adam's rib has XX Chromosomes and cannot be changed merely by dressing as a man.

This is an untenable situation we find ourselves. It is absolutely absurd on its face.

Women have a God given right to be treated fairly and competition with men is definitely unfair. If one does not believe this fact, place a woman in a ring with Mike Tyson as an illustration. Better yet, let them prove their Chromosomes given at conception has changed. It is written in Code by God, our Creator.

Women along with myself fear the total cancellation of women in general, which I believe is what the Biden Administration, among others, wanted all along.

Thomas Bartel, Mr.
self, retired
Plano, TX

Please vote in favor of SB 15, to save women's sports! Women should not compete against biological males, whatever that male believes their gender to be. Having biological males compete with women is unfair and unsafe. It puts women at risk of injury. It is also endorsing a parody of women, insulting and marginalizing them.

Jerry Rubli
Self
Spring, TX

Biological men should only compete against other men.

Fred Riepen
self
Sugar Land, TX

It is terrible to even contemplate letting a person born male simply to claim female sexual orientation and compete in girls and women's sporting events!

Debi Litton
self
Sherman, TX

"The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction, is the legitimate object of good government." Thomas Jefferson

Dear Congresswomen and Congressmen,

My name is Debi Litton and I am a resident in TX Congressional District 62.

I am excited to see that this bill passed the Senate to protect women's and girl's rights in sports!

I am a woman and competed in sports, specifically in swimming, and would never had wanted to compete against boys or men!
I loved competing and would have suffered great disappointment to have to compete against such odds.

This is just another flagrant violation in human morals and against anything that God stands for!

I ask you to vote "YES" to this bill.

I thank you for your service and consideration.

Sincerely,

Debi Litton

Richard Allen
Self Independent Consultant
Lubbock, TX

In Humans, Sex is Binary and Immutable by Georgi K. Marinov

<https://www.nas.org/academic-questions/33/2/in-humans-sex-is-binary-and-immutable>

We have various test within the US Department of Defense where the sample size is large. They uniformly show that men out perform women on most tests. We have the differences in physiology and blood chemistry which give men a physical advantage to women on average.

Mixed-gender teams come up short in Marines' infantry experiment By Hope Hodge Seck

<https://www.marinecorpstimes.com/news/your-marine-corps/2015/09/10/mixed-gender-teams-come-up-short-in-marines-infantry-experiment/>

The US Army spent a long time devising a gender neutral fitness tests. However, women fail at a higher rate than men. Army Having Second Thoughts About Gender-Neutral Fitness Test

<https://dailycaller.com/2021/02/11/army-reconsidering-gender-neutral-fitness-test-combat-acft-military/>

Women in combat roles face these "disproportionate medical risks" The first example is based on nothing more than the fact that men produce a lot of testosterone, leading to larger hearts and more muscle mass. [M]ales have 40% greater aerobic capacity, and higher endurance compared with females. Women's smaller hearts require more blood to be pumped each minute at a given level of exertion because they have less hemoglobin in their blood to carry oxygen. These differences will put women at a distinct disadvantage in newly opened infantry jobs, where they will be expected to carry 100-pound packs routinely, or in armor jobs, where they will have to load 35-pound rounds again and again.

<https://hotair.com/jazz-shaw/2017/07/26/women-combat-roles-facing-disproportionate-medical-risks-n247525>

Men and Women Seeing Different Failure Rates on Army's Gender-Neutral Fitness Test The Army general in charge of the service's new combat fitness test said he's confident it will remain gender-neutral, despite reports of female soldiers failing at much higher rates than men. The popular Facebook page U.S Army W.T.F! Moments recently posted what appeared to be a set of leaked slides showing that about 84% of women failed the Army Combat Fitness Test, compared with 30% of men.

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2019/10/15/men-and-women-seeing-different-failure-rates-armys-gender-neutral-fitness-test.html>

The most recent comprehensive research shows that men, on average, have better spatial skills than women.

The Google Memo: What Does the Research Say About Gender Differences? by Sean Stevens August 10, 2017

<https://heterodoxacademy.org/blog/the-google-memo-what-does-the-research-say-about-gender-differences/>

Furthermore, this rule creates a false pretense that women's physical safety is important to the Biden Administration. But any right to safety that must be justified on a case by case basis is not a right. This new rule jeopardizes women by forcing schools to try and win a bureaucratic paperfight to protect women's sports for women. Women shou

Ron Blair
Self
Mansfield, TX

Please, please, please protect women's sports from being ruined by nonbiological women by voting for this important Senate Bill 15.

Laura Hammer

Myself

Spring, TX

Please vote for this. Men should be competing with men and women should be competing with women.

Patricia Blair

self

Cypress, TX

I urge the members of the Committee to vote YES on SB 15.

Crowe Cassandra

Self

Conroe, TX

I am in SUPPORT of SB 15.

Liz Amrein

Self

Spring, TX

Please vote yes!

Don Ney, Mr

Self

N Richland Hills, TX

Vote yes

Sherry Gremillion, Mrs

Self/designer

Spring, TX

The fact that we are even having to discuss a bill to protect girls/women from having to compete against boys/men in sports, regardless of how they “identify” is beyond ridiculous. However, since we are I strongly urge you to protect biological women from this happening now and in the future. Enough is enough. Common sense and truth must prevail.

priscilla belnap

AMERICA LEGION

san antonio, TX

transgender Boys should not be able to compete in the same sports that girls play

Janice Hiroms

self

Porter, TX

There are only 2 biological sexes and they are very different in their physical attributes. If a man wants to try to identify as a woman and he is an adult, he can do so, but he is still a biological male. Just because he wants to identify and take on the characteristics of a woman does not make him one. When I was an athlete in junior high, high school and college, there were few scholarships for women. It has taken many years for women's sports to be recognized and supported. To take those opportunities and gains away from biological women would be a travesty. Women and girls learn much from competing in sports, including leadership. There are thousands of girls and women who enjoy competing in many different sports. To allow a few transgender persons to destroy the gains women in sports have made would be a travesty.

Donna Rubli, Mrs.

Self

Spring, TX

I don't like biological men competing in women's sports.

Jessica Morgan

Self

Waxahachie, TX

As a former female athlete ... it is a MUST that both biological men and women should only participate in their biological categories for sports.

Emelie Schmidt

Myself

Houston, TX

I am for this bill and I'm representing myself. It is unfair to biological women to compete with biological men. Males have more muscles as well as larger muscles, lungs and hearts. They have a biological advantage and it is not fair for them to take titles and spots scholarships away from biological women. If they want to compete they should compete with their male classmates. Hormones do not lesson their muscles nor change the size of their hearts and lungs.

Renaldo Sanchez

RN, BSN, retired

Cibolo, TX

It is unconscionable to think that biological males are allowed to participate in athletic competition with biological females. Please stop this activity. It is harmful for everyone.

Vickie Dillow

SELF/RETIRED

WAXAHACHIE, TX

THIS IS A GREAT BILL AND NEEDS TO PASS, AS IS, AND PROTECT WOMEN ATHLETES. DO NOT ALLOW BIOLOGICAL MEN TO HAVE AN UNFAIR ADVANTAGE BY ALLOWING THEM TO COMPETE IN A WOMAN'S SPORTS. PLEASE STOP THIS IN ITS TRACKS AND VOTE YES TO PROTECT WOMENS' COLLEGIATE SPORTS IN TEXAS.

Joshua Rastetter

Never Again Coalition

SAN ANGELO, TX

This bill is a massive overreach of power targeting a marginalized community for the purpose of oppression alone, to prevent an issue what isn't an actual issue. I would prefer my tax dollars being spent on actual issues like human rights, voter rights, and healthcare.

Dorinda Sims

self

Midlothian, TX

PLEASE,PLEASE pass this SB 15! Biological boys have no business or need to compete with biological girls! Why would they want to except to win every time? This is a no-brainer for those of us with brains. Biological boys should compete with biological boys. Period.
PASS THIS BILL!!!

Isaac Cruz
Self
Robinson, TX

Greetings Committee Members,

I am conflicted with this bill. I would urge the committee to consider an addendum to this bill, for any organization dealing with competitive sports to add additional categories for transgender players for the purposes of dealing with the physiological aspects of said sports. It's not the state, but the organization to provide such degrees of competition. With this addendum, I can support it.

Regards,
Isaac Cruz

Beth Benjamin
Self Pilates instructor owner/ cabi independent stylist
The Woodlands, TX

I support this bill based on the truth of biological sex starting even in the womb! There is no possible way for a person's to change their sex as every cell in our bodies has either the xx or xy chromosomes. Sadly, in the days, we must legislate and stand for Truth!

Sharon Tryon, Mrs.
Self
Waxahachie, TX

No biological man should be able to compete against women. If this continues you will do away with women's sports and you are only hurting women. I don't care if they're transgender or if they've had sex changes they still have the DNA of a man and muscle, height and physical strength. This is just going to do women in when it comes to any type of sports. It is simply there is only a man or a woman that is it.

Isaac Korenstein
Self, retired
Round Rock, TX

I support SB15. I strongly believe it is unfair for biological women to have to compete against biological men. I support Title 9 and believe athletes should compete against only athletes of their god given sex.

Anna Maria Paulus
TEXAS Citizen!
Porter, TX

Please pass SB 15! A biologically born male has no business competing, athletically, with a biologically born female. A male's bone, lung, and muscle structure is different, stronger, and has more endurance than a female! I ask, what happened to WOMENS RIGHTS? If y'all do not pass this bill, I will personally, tirelessly work to unseat each of you, who voted against this bill, from holding public office!

Jennifer Eckhart
self
Magnolia, TX

I am in support of this Bill.

Roxann Backer
Self-community relations
Ovilla, TX

Women's sports are no place for biological males. Men's sports are no place for biological women!

Marc Choquette
Self/Union Airline Employee
Pflugerville, TX

Biological males compete with biological males. Biological girls compete with Biological girls. This should not even be a question up for debate. Its absurd. Should not be given the time of day.

Ashleigh Lawrence
Self/ Retail Clerk
Lake Jackson, TX

This bill is a clear overreach by the Republican Party. This bill is unnecessary and doesn't actually benefit anyone in any meaningful way. It will, however, serve as a detriment to a small minority of athletes. I am not a scientist or an endocrinologist, but I know enough that hormone levels vary greatly from person to person even among cisgender athletes. There is no scientific basis for this law to exist. It is yet another egregious attempt to undermine the humanity of the transgender community. I would ask the committee to vote against SB15. Thank you.

Mark Young, My pronouns are The Great one
Tarrant County Conservatives
Fort Worth, TX

Woman have fought and won a place in Sports to be able to compete. Allowing Biological males especially those who have competed in Male sports without the success they achieve when they "identify as females" is a blatant attack by what feminists used call the patriarchy.

Also allowing minors to make a life changing decision to change genders when we deem them not mature enough to drink, smoke, or drive vehicles is beyond ridiculous. A decision like this should be made as an adult, not a minor.

Michele Nuckolls
Self
The Woodlands, TX

Let's be reasonable. Men and women are different biologically. Women have worked hard to get our own sports program. Please don't take that away from them.

Suezette Griffin
Self Accounting/Admin Assistant C&E Resources
Pearland, TX

I would like to speak for the legislation to stop men from competing in women's sports. That this ludicrous idea has to even be addressed speaks volumes to the state of our society. It is time to return to what we know are gender and scientific norms. Texas needs to step up to get in front of proposed rule changes to Title IX. In part those proposed changes state:

The proposed rule would establish that policies violate Title IX when they categorically ban transgender students from participating on sports teams consistent with their gender identity just because of who they are. The proposed rule also recognizes that in some instances, particularly in competitive high school and college athletic environments, some schools may adopt policies that limit transgender students' participation. The proposed rule would provide schools with a framework for developing eligibility criteria that protects students from being denied equal athletic opportunity, while giving schools the flexibility to develop their own participation policies. ---

SB15 it's a good step toward the goal of protecting collegiate competitive sports by not allowing biological males "identifying" as women to compete with biological women. Please do the right thing and vote to pass this legislation out of committee and on to the floor of the house for the vote.

Michael Openshaw
Self & Common Sense
Plano, TX

Seriously, folks! Don't allow the continued destruction of the intent & purpose of Title IX at the hands of a few mediocre male athletes who declare themselves female, especially after testosterone naturally gave them a biological advantage. Sports are a biological function, not a matter of what you 'feel' your gender is. Support SB15!

Fred Reitman
Self. Retired toxicologist
Houston, TX

April 30, 2023

Comments on SB 15
Fred Reitman
Houston

My name is Fred Reitman, a Texas resident living in Houston. I support SB 15 and submit these comments on my behalf as a private citizen.

SB 15 requires college athletes who compete in intercollegiate sports to compete based on their biological sex. Specifically, this law prohibits trans athletes who are born as males from competing in womens' sporting events. Biological males are bigger, stronger, and faster than biological females. This means a biological male is all but certain to win a competition in which his opponents are all women. Steroid enhancement is banned in intercollegiate sports for essentially the same reason, it gives the steroid user an unfair advantage. I submit a biological male competing in a woman's competition has an even stronger unfair advantage.

A good example of why this law is needed is current in the news. Riley Gaines, a biological female was 'defeated' in an event by trans woman named Lia Thomas. It is outrageous that any biological female athlete who has trained for years to become a top athlete is beaten by a trans male.

I never thought I'd see the day that Texas must have a law to protect biological women athletes from trans males and to protect their hard-won Title IX rights. But that's we are. For these reasons, please vote for SB 15 to protect female college athletes.

Thank you.

Fred Reitman
Houston

Dana Myers
self, Republican Party of Texas Vice Chair
Houston, TX

I support this bill.
Dana Myers
Harris County

Jean Mann

Self

Spring, TX

I am adamantly IN FAVOR of this bill. Transgenders crushing hard working athletes' dreams. Those for this unfair treatment will say it will cause suicides. NO! What causes suicides is the unnatural hormones being pumped into bodies to change something that can never be changed. It is abominable what these people are doing to their bodies but even WORSE is, because they are losers in their regular lives, they have to be a winner somehow. What better way than compete against the weaker sex. Women have fought for rights since the 40's and have gotten to a place where this should no longer be necessary. Please pass this bill. Thank you Senator Middleton for bringing this forth again!

Misty Odenweller, Trustee Conroe ISD

Myself

Spring, TX

Please protect the hard work and training of our biological female athletes. They have earned this right and deserve your support in favor of SB 15.

Sandra McCarrie, Ms

Self

Greenville, TX

Support women sports by allowing only biological women to compete against each other.

Kathy Rogers, PMP

self

Friendswood, TX

What is the point of Title IX if biological males can compete in women's sports? Since chromosomes cannot be changed, no amount of hormones, surgery, etc. will level the playing field. Women can be severely hurt or killed in full contact sports with men. If you really think it's necessary to acknowledge athletes seeking a special category, create a different competitive listing for that type of competition. Please allow actual women who work hard and have a chance to excel to have there opportunity to do just that.

Kellie Gonzales

Myself

Lexington, TX

Please do not allow biological males to take sports away from women.

Gwen Bullock, Ms

My God Votes

Houston, TX

We must take biological males out of women's sports. For women to train so many years to compete and then have a man steal the trophy is disheartening to all women who desire to compete in women's sports and achieve excellence in that area. Please vote yes to stop this terrible injustice. Thank you for supporting this bill and standing up for women's sports.
Gwen Bullock

Linda McAdams

Grandparent

Spring, TX

This should be a no brainer. Unfair to women's sports.

Carole Medway
Carole Medway, Self
League City, TX

Thank you Senator Middleton for creating SB 15. Let women participate in sports without genetically more powerful men competing against them.

Carole Medway and Paul Dowling

Debbie Lindstrom
Self Business Owner
McKinney, TX

I played high school varsity soccer back in the day. I cannot imagine how rough that would have been with biological males in the game.

Women sports were developed for women and should not include biological males.

I support this bill.

Jim Herblin
Individual
Prosper, TX
Support SB 15

Pat Jackson
Self - retired
La Grange, TX

I urge you to vote in FAVOR of SB15!!!

sara ahlschlager-Caudle
All children
Fayetteville, TX

Boys are boys girls are girls. Build separate schools don't do this to our kids they deserve better!

Kerry Caudle, Mr.
Self
Fayetteville, TX

I support SB15
Do not teach our youth that garbage and God created two genders, period.

John Banner
Self
Richardson, TX

Allowing biological males to compete in women's sports is literally the affirmation of a lie some are trying to make us believe. Neither should women compete in men's sports. There are two sexes, male and female. Period!

Evelyn Courtney
Retired TX educator
ATASCOSA, TX

Women have fought hard to be recognized for their intelligence, skills, and innate value. Now to have men decide that they are or want to be female and to compete against biological females puts the female in danger and destroys women's sports.

Mary Corbin
Self
Houston, TX

I strongly support mayes' sb 15 bill. I participated in women's volleyball in high school and college and do not want to see males, including Trans on the vb court in women's games.

Pamela Sheffield
Self
Goldthwaite, TX

Biological males have no reason whatsoever to compete with biological females. They are born males, therefore they are stronger and the females cannot compete fairly with them.

Ian Ian, Mr.
Self
Alvin, TX

I am asking you to protect women competing in collegiate sports from the dangers and unfairness of the participation of men claiming to be women in their sport.
I support SB15 and I am asking you to do the same.

Brian Smith, Mr.
Self
Conroe, TX

I urge you to protect the safety, privacy, and competitiveness of women's sports by passing SB15. We must take a stand for our daughters before it is too late, and we are left to answer when they ask us why we stood idly by.

Charles Shirley, Mr.
Self/Real Estate Investor
Spring, TX

I support SB 15. Please vote in favor of SB 15. It is inherently unfair to allow biological men to compete in athletic competitions against biological women. It is absurd. If biological men want to compete in a sport then they should compete against other biological men. Biological men are, on average, larger and stronger than biological women. It creates an unfair playing field. Allowing biological men to compete against biological women in sports completely rips the heart out of Title IX and Texas needs to protect biological women and protect the Title IX legal structure. Please vote in favor of SB 15.

Donna Siecko
Self/nurse
Tomball, TX

There is no reason a man should be competing in women's sports! Just because a man may not be good enough in his own gender sports, does not give him the right to take a spot in competition that a female has worked toward for years! A man is a man, period! There are 2 genders, female & male. Compete accordingly!

Carla Trussell
Self
Stephenville, TX

If necessary create a competition category just for trans but do not let biological males compete in women's sports. That is wrong!

Gudrun Ahlskog
Self
Houston, TX

I fully support SB 15. Without it, women will suffer a great injustice. Without it, women will leave sports. Without it, women continue being marginalized.

Joseph Davis, Pastor
Self
Cypress, TX

I support this bill and agree that higher education athletic competitions between students should solely be based on biological sex only.

Cynthia Gaskill
Self - Retired
Magnolia, TX

I am FOR SB 15 which will require females competing in Sports to be qualified by their Biological Sex. This bill states those competing in female sports must provide a birth certificate which corresponds with the biological Sex of the female at birth. A biological female at birth has a chromosome value of XX . If for some reason a birth certificate does not designate the biological sex of the person in question; perhaps a further chromosome test showing XX DNA would be necessary. Currently this is not written in the bill. I am for legislation that will ensure only biological women with XX chromosomes are allowed to compete in Female sports at all levels of competition (middle school; high school; all levels of college sports; professional, etc). There are biological differences between XX and XY persons; and only XX females should be allowed to compete in female sports. In addition, only biological females should be allowed in female locker rooms.

Marianne Paulsen
self/retired
BELLVILLE, TX

I support requiring athletes to compete ONLY in the categories based on their biological sex, i.e. XY or XX. We can NOT have biological men competing against women as they have a biological advantage that cannot be erased.

Jimmy Jackson
Myself
La Grange, TX

As a lifelong Texan, I respectfully request that you pass SB15! Enough is Enough!

John Hamak
self
Amarillo, TX

I support this bill. Women and girls work hard at attaining excellence in sports and should only have to compete against other biological women. Anything else is patently unfair to women and girls.

Carrie Duncan
Myself
Round Rock, TX

We have separate sports for women and men for a reason. There are biological differences that give many men a physical advantage. What is the point of separate sports all these years if men can come in and take over women's sports now?

Frankie Sartin
Self
New Braunfels, TX

Anatomy is vital for fair competition in sports. If it wasn't there would be equal request for born females to compete in male sports. This is a new way for women to be oppressed.

Linda Ricks
Self
Midlothian, TX

I am asking for your vote of "yes" for SB 15. Please protect women's sports. Thank you, Linda Ricks

Annetta Garrett, MS
Self
Lakeway, TX

I support this bill

Brooke Russell
Self/scientist
Friendswood, TX

I support this bill.

Leslie Bateman
Self Registered Nurse, Critical Care
Lake Jackson, TX

I'm confused, why is this bill listed under Education? This is a health and mental health issue. We need to let the medical and psychology professionals help determine this issue not lawmakers pandering to a hateful and fearful few. Restricting children's access to sports and equal opportunity will endanger them much more than harm any other child they may play with or against. I am opposed to this bill as it is a thinly veiled measure to harm, suppress, and try to eradicate trans kids.

Mari Cornelius
self
Austin, TX

Please keep women's sports for women only.
YES to SB15, and save women's sports from biological males competing.
Thank you

Richard Hageman

Self

Houston, TX

Athletes should compete against their own genders, regardless of which gender they “think” they are. Some of the loud minority groups are trying to convince confused young people to change who they are and were when they were born. I am fully in favor of requiring public institutions of high education to require any entrants in athletic competitions to compete against the same biological sex and the sex they were born.

Mari Cornelius

self

Austin, TX

YES on SB 14 and prevent child gender mutilation at every age!

Thank you for saving our kids.

Denise Wilson

Self

Canyon Lake, TX

Biden’s Title IX regulations affect K-12 schools and colleges. The negative impacts are far reaching, especially in regards to sports.

Very tired of corrupt government trying to regulate Evil!

Patricia Bradley

self

Fort Worth, TX

I support this bill and I am asking you to do the same as my representative. Thank you.

Billy Hale

Rube Holdings, LTD

Houston, TX

It is absolutely insane to allow biological males to compete with biological females in intercollegiate athletic competitions. Use some common sense and restore reasonable order to this issue!

David Rakes

Retired

Arlington, TX

In my adult life, we, as a nation, have made great strides in providing opportunities for women to participate in sports. In order to continue this progress, we must not allow men to take away those opportunities. We call them women's sports for a reason, to allow women to compete on an even basis with other women. There are two points here: 1) If men are allowed in women's sports, they will take scholarships away from deserving women, and 2) men will dominate the competition. If a woman wants to compete against men, she is welcome to try, but she would be at a disadvantage. That is why we provide women's sports in the first place. I urge you to support SB 15.

Angie Glidewell

Self

Nederland, TX

As an adult human woman, I am not allowing you to mock and erase women. Biological men should be forbidden to take away advantages of women young and old. Biological men are not to be permitted in a locker rooms, dressing rooms, correctional centers, or anywhere a place for women is designated. Men allowed to do this is repulsive and is a chance for the wicked to hurt biological women. I am demanding a VOTE YES to SB 15

Sylvia Garay

Self

Montgomery, TX

Keep the biological sexes separate in sports!

Thank you

Chris Donofrio

Self

The Woodlands, TX

I strongly oppose SB 15.

As a proud Texan voter, I demand that you let this bill die in committee.

I know this is a highly charged and emotional issue. Please, put away the strong emotions for now and consider these facts.

Fact 1

SB 15 is discriminatory. Its language, and its analysis, clearly indicate that trans women are considered male. As such they cannot compete as females. There is no restriction prohibiting trans men from competing as men in male sports. Trans men, under SB 15's logic must be considered female. Under the same logic, doesn't this give men an unfair advantage over trans men? SB 15 advantages men against women, trans women, and trans men. This is because of the stereotype that men are always physically superior to anyone who is not a man.

Fact 2

Historically there are very few trans women trying to compete as women. SB 15's language and analysis ignore this fact.

Fact 3

SB 15 creates an unnecessary moral panic by stoking fear and confusion in people's minds. It becomes yet another tool to dehumanize trans women who are trying to live with the actual biological sex and gender they were born with.

Fact 4

Biological sex is complicated and nuanced. Recent research clearly establishes this fact. I refer you to Marianne Legato, 2020, "The Plasticity of Sex: The Molecular Biology and Clinical Features of Genomic Sex, Gender Identity and Sexual Behavior." Chapters 4 and 8 are very relevant. Dr Legato is on the staffs of the Depts of Medicine at Columbia and Johns Hopkins.

Current research establishes that sex, as used in SB 15, is not a function of presence/absence of the Y chromosome (chromosome 23). Nor are gender and gender identity. We are what our genes create. Gender and gender identity are set before we're born, regardless of when we recognize our gender.

At present we know that at least 6 genes are involved in gender identity, regardless of the sex assigned at birth based on external genitalia.

CYP 17 (chromosome 19)

ER-alpha (chromosome 6)

ER-beta (chromosome 14)

AR (chromosome 22, X chromosome)

AR (chromosome 23, Y chromosome)

SRD5A2 (chromosome 2)

Transgender individuals simply can't exist as non-trans males or females.

We are genetically different. And our genes have a high heritability. Transgender is not a choice. End of story.

Research has also established another fact to consider regarding sex, as used in SB 15. Gian-Paolo Dotto's 2019 paper "Gender and Sex - Time to Bridge the Gap" (EMBO Molecular Biology) notes: "inactivating mutations of the AR gene, or the gene encoding for the enzyme involved in testosterone modifications (5-alpha reductase) result in individuals with a non-binary or female phenotype EVEN IN THE PRESENCE OF A XY GENOTYPE AND TESTOSTERONE-PRODUCING TESTICLES [caps added]."

Fact 5

The history of Sparta has shown us that women can go toe-to-toe with men. Both underwent the same rigorous physical training.

I strongly oppose SB 15.

Respectfully,

Chris J. Donofrio

Mary Beth Lawson
self-admin asst for a pro life clinic
Garland, TX

It is imperative that we pass legislation to protect our children. SB15 -preventing men from participating in women's sports must pass out of committee and be sent to the floor for a vote.

Stephanie Cox
Self
Conroe, TX

Please support this important bill. We must protect women's sports by only allowing biological women to compete at the collegiate level. It is completely unfair to allow biological men to compete with biological women due to physiological differences. And because federal regulations are trying to force this upon colleges, Texas needs to act now to protect and support women in sports.

Margaret Robinson
Self
Woodcreek, TX

I am against biological men being allowed into any women's or girls sports. I am against allowing men into any women's spaces. Men have a distinct advantage biologically over women and I expect my representative to vote in favor of biological women competing only against other biological women.

Deborah Bailey
Myself
Bronte, TX

Males competing in women's sports gives them an unfair advantage and should not be allowed.

Stan Donaldson
Self
Montgomery, TX

Please pass SB15

Anna Bartosh, Mrs
Self
San Angelo, TX

Please support women's athletics and vote yes

Sylvia Coulson
Self
Waxahatchie, TX

I support this bill. Fairness demands it. Why have women's sports if men are allowed to compete in them.

Allison Merchant
Self/Nurse
Cypress, TX

I am IN FAVOR of this bill

Cynthia Alderman

Self

Fort Worth, TX

I strongly support legislation requiring all public institutions of learning and education who compete in any athletic competitions to compete based on biological sex!

Philip Spencer

Self / Corporate Investigator

Greenville, TX

I absolutely agree that all sports in Texas should base competitions on the basis of biological sex.

Kim Horton

Self / teacher

Weatherford, TX

I am for SB 15 which requires that in intercollegiate athletic competitions the biological sex of an athlete will compete against the same biological sex. Biological males should not compete against biological females! That is the reason women's sports was started so that the biological females would have a place to compete. Biological males should not compete with biological females. Please support biological women's sports and keep them separate! Thank you for your time.

David Jarvis

Retired

Arlington, TX

Keep a level and fair playing field -- only biological females are allowed to compete against biological females!

Cindy Fountain, Ms.

Unitarian Universalist

Cleburne, TX

I oppose this bill! "Trans Texans should be allowed to play in sports without having to navigate harassment and discrimination." The Golden Rule applies to all humans, and yes, Trans Texans are humans! If you believe in the Golden Rule then in good conscience you cannot vote for this bill. Thank you.

Caroll DuBose, Mrs

Self

Aledo, TX

I'm in favor of this bill. This is crucial to uphold biblical beliefs. God created male and female!!!

Ava Blais

Self

Hudson Oaks, TX

We should not reverse the efforts that were undertaken for women athletes in this country and Surrender them to a distortion men are not women and women are not women and women should not have to sacrifice their rights

Connie Lein
Self
Robstown, TX

Please protect women competing in collegiate sports from the dangers and unfairness of the participation of men claiming to be women in their sport. Today we celebrate women and all they can do, but some men transitioning to women are unfairly stealing this from true women.
Please do not allow anyone not biologically born female compete in women's sports.

Heather Fitzgerald
Self
Azle, TX

Biology matters! Hormone suppression only does so much. Protect the integrity of Women's sports by only allowing biological women to compete.

Tina Kirbie
Self
Friendswood, TX

Women had fought hard to earn the recognition for their ability in sports. We never asked to compete with men in sports because we understood the biological differences that made that an unfair competition. Please don't take away a female athlete's chance to competitively compete in sports with persons who by biological are male and thus have a genetic advantage. Thank you.

Rosalind James, Mrs.
Self
Cypress, TX

Committee members, we urge you too pass SB15. Girls and young women should not be forced to compete in athletics with biological males. Girls have already been seriously injured in competitions where biological males have "identified" as females were allowed to compete in female sports. How can young women look forward to being serious competitors if this practice is allowed to continue. This is degrading to women and is a disgrace that school officials have not only allowed, but encouraged this. It is up to our legislators to put a stop to this.

Mary Jones, Retired Texans
Self
Honey Grove, TX

I do not want biological males competing in female sports. Nor do I want these males dressing or showering with young ladies when competing. Give them their own category for competitions. Until they have undergone complete surgical transition, they should not be posing themselves in the presence of biological females.

Crowe Cassandra
Self
Conroe, TX

I am FOR this bill. Please protect my athlete daughters.

Nicole Duncum
self
Austin, TX

I support that the students who compete in athletic competitions can only compete against their own biological sex. It has always been this way.

Holly Freeman
Self (a woman)
Waxahachie, TX

Biological females should only be competing against biological females. I am a former athlete and a former coach. I am not a former female. I played in women's sports from the time I was 4 years old all the way through my Senior year in high school. I coached middle school girls and high school girls for nearly 10 years. It's a disgrace to all girls whoever dreamed of playing college ball to have to compete against a male who claims he is a female in order to compete in women's sports. We should be encouraging our young women, not placing another barrier in front of them. It is unfathomable we are even having this conversation. If there is a Y chromosome, that man needs to be competing against other Y chromosomes and stay out of female sports.

Allison Craig, Dr.
self, college professor
Fort Worth, TX

This bill epitomizes the wasteful and discriminatory distraction that anti-trans politics have become in the Texas legislature this session. Trans Texans deserve to participate in sports without threat of harassment or unequal treatment; moreover, our legislature has more important priorities than pushing through hate-fueled legislation about school sports.

Linda Donaldson
Self
Montgomery, TX
Pass SB 15

Cori Mccauley, Mrs
Me
Fort Worth, TX

Biological Women only in women's sports

Patricia Krach
Self. Certified nurse midwife
Dallas, TX

I was a competitive swimmer in college. Guys are usually faster than girls. Even the slow guys are faster than most girls. Very few people are able to compete at the college level in their sport and be really good. Please don't take winning at that level away from the women with (XX) .please support this bill and have people compete based on biological sex. If you don't support it, you are ruining women's sports because biological women will no longer win. It won't take long for women's sports to die.

Edna Thomas
Self
Royse City, TX

I stand in agreement of this bill. Please vote for it.

Ginger Moore
Self
San Angelo, TX

Women should compete against another born a biological woman! Just common sense!

ANNE NEWMAN
self
Fair Oak Ranch, TX

Please support this bill. It is not fair for males to compete as women because they are pretending to be women.

Amanda Logan
self
Austin, TX

MEN should not be competing in women's sports. Period! There is a biological difference between men and women that gives men a competitive advantage in sports. That's why there are women's sports and men's sports. Women's sports is under attack. Defend the right for women competing in women's sports to compete against ONLY WOMEN so that women have an equal playing field! This should not even be an argument. A man's feelings of whether he would prefer to be (or has taken steps to look more like a woman) and would prefer to compete with women in women's sports should be completely irrelevant. This is not about men and men's feelings. it's about protecting women and women's sports. PLEASE STAND UP FOR WOMEN and WOMEN'S RIGHTS!

Debbie Branch
Self/homemaker
League City, TX

I support SB 15. Biological males will always have the ability to have a physical advantage in sporting competitions over biological females so this law must be put in place in order to preserve women's sports.

Lee Roscoe, Mr.
Self; Retired Civil Servant & Senior: 80% Disabled Vietnam Veteran
Schertz, TX

I am a retired professional researcher, instructor & curriculum developer with a M. Ed. Regarding SB15, it is scientifically unsound & unfair to allow men to compete in women's competitive sports events. The DNA and body structures of men and women are totally different & unique giving unfair advantage to men totally destroying the scoring system used to rate the individual competitor to say nothing of totally destroying the reason to hold separate male & female competitive athletic contests such as the Olympics as has been done for years. Ruining professional athlete's bodies through transgender operations & chemicals wrecks them for a normal life in the gender they were born with just to serve a selfish & self-centered political purpose. Please pass SB-15.

Linda Rath, Dr.
Self. Retired.
Tyler, TX

Please pass this bill to stop men "identifying" as women from participating in collegiate women's sports. Thank you!

Shannon Mauldin
Self
Porter, TX

Biological women should only compete with other biological women, not biological men that state they are women.

Michael Vaughn

Self

League City, TX

I wholeheartedly support this bill. As the father of 2 daughters who competitively swam from the ages of 6 to 18, I witnessed firsthand the competitive differences between boys and girls swimming during these developmental years. As boys age and pass through puberty, they develop physical capabilities that give them a competitive advantage. Title IX intentionally put protections in place to give females a level competitive playing field. Texas must preserve these protections. This bill will provide these protections by preventing boys from claiming to be girls in order to gain a competitive advantage over other sport participants.

Linda Nuttall

self, writer/editor

Houston, TX

I support passage of SB 15. The purpose of women's sports is to give women opportunities they could not have in competition with men, because of biological differences. Allowing biological males to compete against women deprives women of the opportunities they have worked long years for to reach the elite status of college-level sports.

Jeff L MacGeorge

Precinct 0548 Chairman

Houston, TX

I am so concerned with what's happening to the Biological Women athletes. These females have put in very hard work and dedication to achieve this level of competition in their athletic career. For most, it started in their childhood and has taken thousands of hours of practice and training. It's absolutely horrible that a male identifying as a female can take all their dreams away by being allowed to compete being a biological male against a biological female. If there isn't any difference between sexes and the muscle mass and stature, then why don't we see female identifying as males competing against males in their categories. I am a father of a daughter and I would hate for my daughter to have to be traumatized with having to experience this treatment as a biological female athlete. At some point in life we will all have to stand before God and be held accountable for the choices and decisions we make. Don't be on the wrong side of this issue. I respectfully ask you to VOTE YES for SB15, you must protect biological female collegiate athletes and all biological female athletes no matter what level they are competing at. It's the right choice to make voting yes for SB15.

Thank you for your Yes vote

Jeff L MacGeorge

Precinct 0548 Chairman

Riley Waddell
Young Woman for America
Carrollton, TX

I would like to thank Senator Mayes Middleton for presenting S.B. 15. My name is Riley Waddell, and I am a current athlete, a student at Baylor University, come from a long line of hard-working Texans, and an ambassador for Young Women for America, a project of Concerned Women for America, the nation's largest public policy women's organization. As seen in recent events, the lack of responsibility and diligence when it comes to protecting women's sports has become abundantly clear. As a current college athlete and former high school letterman, I am extremely grateful for the Texas law that protects girls' sports by enforcing that biological males cannot compete on female teams in K-12 education.

I am writing this on behalf of my younger self who dreamed of competing at the next level, for my future daughters, and for all the women. We have spent too long fighting for equality to have it taken away due to mentally ill biological males. By allowing them to compete in women's sports, we are giving up women's civil rights of equal opportunity and protection.

I am writing this as a woman who believes that God intentionally only created two genders. Both have complementing characteristics but were never created to compete against each other. Men are designed to be more agile, have larger muscle mass, and broader skeletal structure. It is despicable that advocates claim "women's sports thrive when trans-inclusive policies are in place." This is false as seen in Lia Thomas, a biological male, choosing to compete as a female after receiving a ranking of NO. 462 as a male.

Women worked tirelessly for Title IX to allow female athletes to pursue dreams of accomplishing physical excellence. The protection given to women in 1972 is about to be stripped away as we praise biological males that identify as women. Doing away with sex-based categories, females will never stand a chance against biological males. The physical advantages they took away were our hard-earned accolades, hours of training, and dreams that millions of female athletes like me have been training for since we were three.

I would like to thank Senator Mayes Middleton for representing the voice of female athletics and fighting for justice and the authentic equality we as female athletes deserve. Every little girl should be able to live out her dream of competing fairly but not against a biological male.

Men in women's sports are a disgrace and a mockery of women's rights. As the United States of America, we are supposed to set the standard for the rest of the world on what freedom really means, but sadly we have failed to uphold the bare essence of women's rights.

I exhort the advocates and legislators to ask themselves what side of history they want to be remembered for. I implore you on behalf of female athletes across Texas that Senate Bill 15 should be passed to uphold the integrity of female college athletics echoing justice for women's sports in this sacred hall.

Deanna Katri
Self
Spring, TX

As a former collegiate Texas athlete I am FOR SB15 and here is why:
I am FOR SB 15 which will require females competing in Sports to be qualified by their Biological Sex. This bill states those competing in female sports must provide a birth certificate which corresponds with the biological Sex of the female at birth. A biological female at birth has a chromosome value of XX . If for some reason a birth certificate does not designate the biological sex of the person in question; perhaps a further chromosome test showing XX DNA would be necessary. Currently this is not written in the bill. I am for legislation that will ensure only biological women with XX chromosomes are allowed to compete in Female sports at all levels of competition (middle school; high school; all levels of college sports; professional, etc). There are biological differences between XX and XY persons; and only XX females should be allowed to compete in female sports. In addition, only biological females should be allowed in female locker rooms.

Martha Bosworth

Self/ retired

League City, TX

Women have been neglected in sports for years and now when we finally are able to make some progress in making our talent count we get knocked out again. When we talk about the most marginalized population, it has always been women. Don't let this happen. Have athletes compete on their biological sex.

Bredow Thompson

self/retired

HOUSTON, TX

Please vote YES to protect women competing in intercollegiate athletic competitions. Women's sports are intended to give women an opportunity to compete against other women, not against people who were born male (born with XY chromosomes) and have inherently greater strength and athletic ability. Please stand for women.

Larry Maddalena, Dr.

Self / Chiropractor

Austin, TX

I ask that you vote in favor of SB15. Biological women (I can't believe we're at a point we have to clarify) have fought for decades for equal rights, to compete in sports, and to be allowed to work in industries like the fire and police departments. You must take steps to protect biological women from men who want to be a woman. Being in the health care field, I can attest that in general men are genetically stronger than women. That's why there has been a separation of women from men's sports.

Alice Stebbins Wells was serious about getting hired as a policewoman, so after she gained the requisite 100 signatures on a petition from her fellow citizens, she asked the mayor, police commissioner and the city council to allow women to be appointed as policewomen. After they approved the petition and passed the appropriate legislation, Wells was finally appointed in September 1910 as the nation's first designated policewoman with all the authority of her male counterparts.

Patricia Palinkas is on record as being the first female professional football player, having played for the Orlando Panthers of the Atlantic Coast Football League in 1970. Palinkas was a placekick holder for her placekicker husband.

In 2007, Abby Vestal was the kicker for the Kansas Koyotes in the American Professional Football League, an indoor pro football league. Vestal kicked three PATs on April 23 marking the first female to score points in a men's pro football game.

On October 18, 1997, Liz Heaston became the first woman to play and score in a college football game, kicking two extra points. Prior to this game, female athletes at Duke and Louisville had come close to playing in a game but did not. In 2001, Ashley Martin became the second female athlete to score in a college football game, this time in the NCAA.

Voting against SB15 is offensive to woman.

Cecilia Wood, Esq.

self- attorney/lobbyist

Austin, TX

It is very difficult to comment on this bill because it seems like such a no brainer. There are undeniable, physical differences between men and women. It is also clearly unfair it is to expect biological women to compete against biological men. That is why they have historically competed in separate leagues. If a woman was discovered to have unfair advantage because she was taking testosterone, she would not be allowed to compete. If women know that after years of sacrifice and practice a man can decide that he is a woman and jump ahead of all them because of superior physical abilities due to his biology as a man, there will be no women teams. This is a good bill and a needed bill if women are going to have equality with men in college sports. Please pass SB out of committee.

Erin Morris
Self
Fort Worth, TX

I support this bill to protect womens sports from biological men.

Loren Sack
Self
Austin, TX

Please protect women's sports by fighting for this bill.

Edwin Greiner
Self
Amarillo, TX

I am four passage of this bill

Jeanne Berry
Self
Mineola, TX

I am favor of SB 15. Allowing Trans athletes to compete against biological women is unfair. It promotes the further erasure of women. Trans athletes definitely have a huge proven advantage over biological women.

James Keyes
Self - Retired
Fort Worth, TX

I support SB 15 because every female athlete, including those in college, deserves to compete on a fair and level playing field. Unfortunately, there are growing instances of naturally-born males dominating women's athletic competitions, especially in college. Title IX was supposed to guarantee that every female -- from kindergarten to college -- receives equal opportunities in education and athletics. I urge the Texas Legislature to protect the dreams and opportunities of my granddaughters, and I ask this committee to vote in favor of SB 15.

Robert Holstein, Mr
Self/Retired
Houston, TX

This issue of men pretending to be women and then being allowed to compete against real women in physical sports is such a sad testament of just how far our society has drifted away from God. I wish we did not have to implement laws like this, but we will have more of what we continue to allow. We have the power to stop this. Help us put an end to this insanity! Vote for SB15. Thanks!

Amy Duty
self
Houston, TX

Please vote in favor of public institutions of higher education requiring athletic competitions based on biological sex.
At birth biological girls should only compete against at birth biological girls.
At birth biological boys should only compete against at birth biological boys.
This is both an issue of fairness and common sense.

Michael Belsick
Fredericksburg Tea Party
Fredericksburg, TX

I fully support women sports at any age. My daughter played softball and soccer all through school. While women athletes are extremely talented in their own right, they have not had years of testosterone building muscle mass. As such, it gives trans women (biological males) an unfair advantage in any competition. If you wish to establish sports for trans students, I have no objection. However, I strongly oppose disenfranchising biological females (those with XX chromosomes) by allowing biological males (those with XY chromosomes) who now identify as females from competing in school sporting events. Thank you

Linda Lutkus
Self / realtor
Cypress, TX

I want my granddaughters to compete against other biological females. I want them to be on equal footing with the other participants. It would not be "sport" otherwise. Protect GIRLS ONLY sports for future generations.

Grant Musgrove
Self
Waxahachie, TX

Please vote for this bill to require athletes to compete on the basis of their biological sex. It's sad that this is a topic for discussion. If you don't vote for this bill, you might as well just eliminate the difference in men and women sports and just let anyone play any sport on any team.

Ashley Sheffield
Self
Ledbetter, TX
Support 100%

Ray Worsham
Self
Elgin, TX

This common sense bill defends women's rights and insures fair competition. I support it's passage and eventual enrollment.

John Walker
Republican Precinct Chairman Travis County #271
Austin, TX

It is sad that this is even a question. Perhaps it's due to the fact that manhood has been so belittled in American that people actually think there's no difference between a man and a woman. Please make it clear that is NOT true in Texas and eliminate this farce. Especially before some young lady gets hurt.

Cheryl Abernathy
Self
Georgetown, TX

Biological sex should determine who competes in college athletics as men who identify as women still have the physical muscles and strength of men. This places them at a distinct advantage in sports. Women who have worked so hard to get Title IX so that they too can receive awards, accolades, and opportunities for higher positions in sports or allied business. There have been many injuries to women in sports where men compete against them because of their greater strength. This is certainly not fair! Women should also not be exposed to naked men in athletic facilities. They deserve their privacy!

Monica Dean

Myself

Houston, TX

I am in support of SB15 to protect women's sports in college. We already have a law protecting high school sports so college sports should be no different. Men and women are made different biologically therefore cannot compete at the same level. Save women's sports.

Sarah Lindley Bailey

Self

Spring, TX

The recent controversy surrounding transgender athletes competing in sports has ignited a debate about fairness and equality in athletics. While everyone deserves the right to participate in sports, it is important to consider the biological differences between males and females. This is why I support SB15 by Mayes Middleton, which aims to prevent biological males from competing in girls' sports.

Biological females have distinct physiological differences compared to biological males, which can impact athletic performance. For example, males generally have greater muscle mass, larger lung capacity, and a higher level of testosterone, which can lead to an unfair advantage in sports. Allowing biological males to compete in girls' sports not only undermines the hard work and dedication of female athletes, but also puts their safety at risk. Contact sports, in particular, could be potentially dangerous if males are allowed to participate against females due to the physical differences between them.

Furthermore, allowing biological males to compete in girls' sports would also affect the opportunities available for female athletes. If males are allowed to compete in female divisions, there is a risk that female athletes will lose out on scholarships, awards, and other opportunities that they have worked hard to earn.

In conclusion, I believe that only biological females should play in girls' sports. SB15 is an important step towards ensuring fairness, safety, and equality in sports, and it is crucial that we consider the biological differences between males and females when making decisions about athletic competition.

Charlene Reagan

Self and True Texas Project

SPICEWOOD, TX

I SUPPORT SB15. It is a travesty that we have allowed men to compete in women's sports. My daughter was a high school taekwondo international competitor and she would fight against women in her weight bracket at her tournaments. The tkd rules for weight and gender class made each match about skill. My daughter did well in the competition ring, but suffered during training exercises where she would be required to spar men in preparation for upcoming tournaments. Unfortunately, due to concussive injuries sustained when sparring men, my daughter can no longer compete in her beloved sport. It highlights the need to keep women's sports for biological women only. It is a scientific fact that men are physically stronger than women, so it is patently unfair to allow men to compete in women's sports. Thank you, Senator Middleton for proposing this bill and for your efforts to protect women's rights.

Eric Caynak

None

Weatherford, TX

I can't believe that I have to say that men Competing in women's sports is a bad idea. What has this world come to.

Jordan Rodriguez, Senior Counsel

Self

Houston, TX

I support SB 15 because women in college deserve the same equal athletic opportunities they're afforded in high school. SB 15 is needed because:

- Every female athlete—including those in college—deserves to compete on a fair and level.
- We continue to see growing instances nationwide of males dominating women's athletic competitions, especially in college. Allowing men to compete in women's sports shatters dreams and robs female athletes of opportunities.
- Title IX guarantees that every female—from kindergarten to college—receives equal opportunities in education and athletics. Texas already fulfills the promise of Title IX to Texas girls in K-12, and that promise shouldn't end when a young woman graduates high school and starts competing in college.
- The entire purpose of women's sports laws is undermined if we protect fairness for the 18-year-old in high school but refuse to protect her when she steps on the collegiate playing field.

For these reasons, I ask the committee to vote in favor of SB 15.

JoAnn McCracken

Myself/ retired

Houston, TX

Dear committee:

vote yes. As a mother, grandmother and a taxpayer, I very strongly support both of these bills.

Please vote Yes on both and get them out of your committee for a houseboat.

Thank you for your service.

Betty Laquey

Self-retired

Midlothian, TX

Men that change their appearance to "look" like a woman-are NOT a woman! Men have more muscle mass than women and changing to look like a woman doesn't change this. I support SB15 to keep women's sports played by biological women only. I pray that God will give our legislators the wisdom to support this bill.

JON JACKSON

self

ALEDO, TX

I wholeheartedly support this common sense bill. Even well known lesbian women in sports realize how unfair it is to women competing against larger, faster, and stronger males who have transgendered. Women deserve a fair chance and level playing field, which recent past sporting events clearly demonstrate is NOT the case. They have worked too hard for equal opportunity to take a major step backwards now. Wasn't that what Title 9 was all about anyway?

Please take a stand for women collegiate athletes in Texas and vote to support SB 15.

Katherine Regis
Self / Engineer
Wimberley, TX

I oppose SB15. This bill is another case of government over-reach into a situation where a private organization, the NCAA, already has effective policies and regulations. SB15 also projects hatred towards a small minority of the population of Texas. The witnesses in the senate hearing presented misinformation and half-truths. To clarify the actual experience with transgender athletes:

SB15 proponents will cite performance statistics for cisgender males compared to cisgender females but they won't talk about performance studies of transgender athletes. In Nov 2022 CCES released "Transgender Women Athletes and Elite Sport: A Scientific Review." One of the main conclusions was: "Available evidence indicates trans women who have undergone testosterone suppression have no clear biological advantages over cis women in elite sport."

SB15 Witnesses said Lia Thomas was a mediocre swimmer - even though in her first year at Penn in 2018 only one male sophomore or freshman NCAA swimmer was faster than her in the 1000y free. She was a legitimate National champion contender in her focus event when she swam against males.

SB15 proponents seem unaware of trans male and nonbinary athletes.

Nikki Hiltz recently won the USATF road 1 mile race. Quinn won an Olympic gold medal with the Canada women's soccer team. Chris Mosier is one of the top trans athletes and was on the US men's sprint duathlon team. Schuyler Bailar is the first openly transgender NCAA Division I swimmer when he transitioned while at Harvard. Mack Beggs wrestled on his college men's team. Professional boxer Patricio Manuel has a 2-0 record fighting against cis men.

Proponents diminish women athletes and won't recognize talented cisgender women like Maddie Ripley who recently won a Maine high school boys state wrestling championship. Or Olivia Pichardo who is playing NCAA Division 1 baseball for Brown University. They won't acknowledge that elite women ultra-marathon runners are competitive with men.

They won't acknowledge that the NCAA has had a transgender inclusive policy since 2010. And they surely won't acknowledge that in all that time transgender athletes have been grossly under-represented in NCAA sports.

Worst of all, they'll never recognize the humanity of transgender people. The trans athletes they want to lock out of college sports are thinking, feeling humans with real emotions who deserve the same rights as any other college student.

Stop SB15

Lori Menchaca
Self
Weatherford, TX

In favor!

rose hutchinson
self
houston, TX

I am in favor of SB15.

Fran Rhodes
True Texas Project, self (President non profit)
Ft Worth, TX

True Texas Project strongly supports this bill, protecting women athletes from men pretending to be women.

Terri Hall, Legislative Liaison
We the People - Liberty in Action
Kerrville, TX

We support SB 15 and saving women's sports. This is a no-brainer. Biological men should NOT be allowed to compete in women's sports. Our women collegiate athletes are losing scholarships and spots on very competitive teams to men. Title IX was put in place to protect women's sports and without this bill, Title IX will be effectively nullified. Where are the feminists? What happened to the women's rights movement? While they're nowhere to be found defending women in sports, We the People and many other Texas groups are here to stand with and for women rights. Please support SB 15 and vote it out of committee immediately.

Bryce Traweek
Self
Montgomery, TX

It is unfair that men are participating in women's sports and stealing the opportunity to compete and experience the thrill of victory from college women across the country. Allowing men to compete in women's sports is a direct contradiction to Title IX and the rights female athletes have fought hard for the past 50 years. Many young women's college scholarships and careers are at stake if our legislature does not stand up for women's sports.

Rickey LeCompte
Self
Spring, TX

I absolutely support the bill that keeps biological males from competing against biological females. Anything else is a travesty against real women.

SCOTT SARAGOZA, Mr.
Self
The Woodlands, TX

I am FOR SB 15 which will require females competing in Sports to be qualified by their Biological Sex. This bill states those competing in female sports must provide a birth certificate which corresponds with the biological Sex of the female at birth. A biological female at birth has a chromosome value of XX . If for some reason a birth certificate does not designate the biological sex of the person in question; perhaps a further chromosome test showing XX DNA would be necessary. Currently this is not written in the bill. I am for legislation that will ensure only biological women with XX chromosomes are allowed to compete in Female sports at all levels of competition (middle school; high school; all levels of college sports; professional, etc). There are biological differences between XX and XY persons; and only XX females should be allowed to compete in female sports. In addition, only biological females should be allowed in female locker rooms

Claire Buntrock
myself
Tomball, TX

I am the mother of two female athletes. I see their commitment, teamwork, and passion for what they do. Female athletes who work so hard should not have their records stolen and their spaces invaded by biological males. Such foolishness in our society is unsustainable. Please be a voice of sanity and vote FOR SB15. The opposition is loud, but proponents are more numerous.. Many are praying for the courage of our legislators in standing for what is right. Only by working with the laws of nature and nature's God can we achieve our highest purpose and fulfillment.

Isaiah 40:10: Behold, the Lord God shall come with a strong hand, and His arm shall rule for Him; behold, His reward is with Him, and His work before Him.

Thank you for your consideration.

Robert McIsaac, Mr.
Self, disabled
Friendswood, TX

It's time for Texas to ban the mentality ill, delusional men pretending to be women from endangering the lives and safety of biological women and girls in every day life as well as girls and women's sports.

John Fisher
Myself a native Texan
Fort Worth, TX

This bill amounts to nothing other than identity-based harassment and attempted intimidation. I strenuously object to such bigotry in the State in which I was born and raised. Vote NO on SB 15. Thank you.

Don Griffin
Self
Red Oak, TX

Please hear the voice of the citizens of this state and do the right thing!!! Pass SB 15 with no exceptions!
Transgendered men should never be allowed on any women's sports team. Not ever. Pass SB 15

Lola Hurt
True Texas Project
Addison, TX

Texas helped lead the way in 2021 by passing the Save Girls' Sports act to ensure Texas girls have opportunities and safety. Now the legislature has a chance to build upon that victory and expand these protections to collegiate athletes. SB 15 protects opportunities for women & keeps them safe by requiring college athletes to participate on the sports team that corresponds to their biological sex. Thank you for hearing this bill & please pass this bill out of committee ASAP! Please do this for the daughters & g-daughters of Texans!

Tara Beulah
Seld
Cypress, TX

There are only two genders. We need to protect women's sports by not letting men compete in them!

Shelly Skeen
Lambda Legal
Dallas, TX

Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc. (“Lambda Legal”) opposes SB 15. First, if SB 15 were enacted, it would cause serious, irreparable harm for nonbinary and transgender college students, who already experience well-documented stigma, bullying, and discrimination. Second, SB 15 harms nonbinary and transgender students by excluding them from participation in athletics, which constitutes sex discrimination in violation of federal law and would place schools at great risk of liability. Third, SB 15 places schools at risk of legal liability by inviting litigation against them from both directions. On the one hand, it invites claims by cisgender students who object to participation by nonbinary and transgender students and those they believe might be nonbinary and transgender; meanwhile, schools that deny nonbinary and transgender students the ability to participate, or that subject some students to privacy violations because others suspect them of possibly being nonbinary and transgender, would violate the federal rights of the students excluded or so targeted. Litigation is costly, especially when attorneys’ fees are recoverable. This bill also creates the risk of loss of federal funding to Texas. The U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights (“OCR”) enforces Title IX’s nondiscrimination requirements in education programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. Fourth, SB 15’s sex-based criteria based on one’s birth certificate is factually mistaken and legally indefensible. By ignoring medical science, the bill imposes discrimination which cannot be defended when challenged in court. Finally, the bill requires the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to adopt rules to implement its enactment. The board’s mission does not include adopting rules for the enforcement of legislation like this, nor does its mission comport with the purpose and effect of the bill, which does NOT promote access, affordability, quality, success, or cost efficiency in higher education, or allow Texas to effectively compete in a global workplace when transgender athletes have been participating in collegiate sports without incident or domination for 20 years. Prohibiting transgender Texas collegiate athletes from competing in the sex that matches their gender identity will not make Texas an international leader or provide Texas students with the ability to compete in a global marketplace. This legislation deprives all students of the opportunity to compete in a competitive workplace, not just transgender and nonbinary athletes. SB 15 is a solution in search of a problem and would needlessly invite harm to girls and all LGBTQ young people for no legitimate reason. It is important for elected leaders to uphold the statutory and constitutional guarantees that protect everyone in this State. We urge you not to pass SB 15 out of committee.

Suzanne Spurlock
Self
Waxahachie, TX

Please dont let biological males compete in female sports and don’t let females compete in male sports .
There is no fairness to women athletes if they are forced to compete with stronger males

Elizabeth Suttle, Mrs
Self
Boerne, TX

Biological men always have an advantage over biological women. That is why women don’t compete against men. Identifying as a gender does not change that.

Annie Woo
Self, chef
Austin, TX

i support athletes competing based on biological sex. What we’ve already observed in high school and college is that biological males will outperform biological females. This does not happen the other way around where biological females outperform biological males. Bigger hearts, lungs, and more lean muscle mass give an advantage in sports and it’s not transphobic to acknowledge this.

Audrey Odom
self
Sugar Land, TX

Title 9 was implemented to give women equal access to sports and it should be upheld. Men are stronger than women and should not be able to compete in the womens events. Make a third category called trans. Probably would end any issues.

Anne Griffin
SELF
Red Oak, TX

Without any reservation this bill MUST be passed!!!! There should not even be a need for discussion on this issue. Other states have already banned the acceptance of transgendered males into women's sports of whom Texas should have taken the lead. And NO exceptions! Pass this bill now!

David Grant, Dr
Self
Texarkana, TX

Biology is THE defining of sexuality NOT identification. Chromosome count is all that matters.

I am for this bill.

Reed Bilz, Ms
Self
Fort Worth, TX

I am the mother of a trans son. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 15. Trans Texans should be allowed to play in sports without having to navigate harassment and discrimination.

Gale Saragoza, Mrs
Self
Spring, TX

As a former female collegiate athlete I am FOR SB 15 which will require females competing in Sports to be qualified by their Biological Sex. This bill states those competing in female sports must provide a birth certificate which corresponds with the biological Sex of the female at birth. A biological female at birth has a chromosome value of XX. If for some reason a birth certificate does not designate the biological sex of the person in question; perhaps a further chromosome test showing XX DNA would be necessary. Currently this is not written in the bill. I am for legislation that will ensure only biological women with XX chromosomes are allowed to compete in Female sports at all levels of competition (middle school; high school; all levels of college sports; professional, etc). There are biological differences between XX and XY persons; and only XX females should be allowed to compete in female sports. In addition, only biological females should be allowed in female locker rooms.
10207

Anna Strickland Patterson
Self - CPA - former d1 athlete and coach
Spring, TX

I want this passed that trans genders must compete in the division they were born in

Rhonda Wright
Self
Texarkana, TX

Please Do Not allow women to be discriminated against by allowing biological males to participate in women's sports. It is not fair to biological women who have put so much into their various sports.

Lisa Dollar
Self - IT Professional
Georgetown, TX

This is of utmost importance to me. This needs to pass. We must protect our children and allow them to realize their full potential without being hijacked by the trans agenda.

Nancy Woods, Texas citizen
Home
Houston, TX

Distinguished Members of the Committee,
We must protect women's sports!
Common sense tells us that males have greater strength and are usually physically bigger than women. It is not fair, just or appropriate for biological men to compete with women in games that require strength. SB 15 must become law to keep biological men in men's competitions and biological women in women's competitions. Many of these women depend on scholarships to go to college. We should be about equal opportunity, not guaranteed failure!

Daryl Hampton
Self / Retired
Houston, TX

Since it's scientific, let's stick to the science. Women are women. Men are men.

Jennifer Bates
Self
Denton, TX

I oppose this bill. This bill is targeting trans people and limiting their access to sports and to higher education. There's no need for this, there are not 100s of trans people competing in sports in colleges.

Lindsay Dawson
self; business owner
Conroe, TX

I absolutely support SB 15. It is only fair!!

Diane Hill, Mrs.
Self /Retired
Garland, TX

I do not support transgender men being allowed to participate in collegiate women's sports.
The most obvious reason being the indisputable fact men have a physical strength and endurance advantage. These advantages severely limit a woman's ability to win in any event when a male participates.
The fact that this is up for discussion says to me something is fundamentally wrong with our society.
If people as whole, especially women, do not speak up against this travesty, we have sunk to unbelievable depths of despair.
Trans men absolutely need to be removed from any arena/spaces where women compete.
Women have the right to be given a fair advantage to achieve a win against other women ONLY.

Thank you,
Diane Hill

Melody Ginn, Mrs

Self

Red Oak, TX

I am in favor of SB15. There should not be any discussion on this issue. Transgender males should NEVER be allowed to compete in women's sports.

George Brian Vachris

self / retired

Humble, TX

I support this bill. No person with a "Y" chromosome, a biological male, should compete against women in sports where teams are separated by sex. It is unfair for women to be in competition with biological males who have structural differences from biological females. Trans women are NOT women, they are men posing as women, regardless of surgery or hormone treatments. The "Y" chromosome is embedded in every cell of their body. This bill has nothing to do with sexual partner preference or orientation. This bill has to do with fairness in sports competition. Please pass SB 15 or HB 23 by Representative Swanson and ensure fairness in women's sports.

Patti Mauck, Mrs

Self

McDade, TX

I have granddaughters competing in sports and I do not want a man in their dressing room or competing against them!! It's not fair and we have fought hard to get women's rights to have them destroyed because a man thinks he identifies as a woman!!! The Democrats need to think of their granddaughters or future granddaughters, this should not be political but what is fair and the right thing to do for girls sports.

Suzanne Guggenheim

Coastal Bend Republican Coalition

Corpus Christi, TX

I strongly support SB15

Erica Dunnihoo

Self

Pottsboro, TX

I support SB 15

Joy Jackson

self, homeschool teacher

Austin, TX

In regards to SB15, I support this bill in relating to requiring public institutions of higher education students who compete in intercollegiate athletic competitions to compete based on biological sex. The biological difference between male and female clearly exist. Sport has been set up as binary with males and females, to ensure an even playing field. It is important that we do not throw out the meaning of the 'girls' and women's' categories in sports.

Claire Honeycutt

Self, member of Texas Young Republicans Policy Committee

Round Rock, TX

Please keep our young female athletes safe. We deserve to compete on an equal field with other women. Keep men out of women's sports!

Kelly Wilson

Myself

Spring, TX

This bill needs to PASS. In what universe is a male, naturally stronger, supposed to be equal to a woman?? Studies have shown that even with male-reducing/female-enhancing hormones, they are STILL going to be stronger. This is patently unfair to women. Any male who cannot fathom losing can decide to become a "woman" and participate thusly, as we have seen over and over. It's one thing for a weaker athlete to want to try and compete up; it is a complete other for a stronger athlete to compete down. Would you let an 11-year old compete in a league with 8 year olds? Of course not!

There are two sexes/genders and you CANNOT change them. No amount of wishing, hormones, or surgery can or will change that. STOP allowing biologically born men to compete in women's sports. It isn't fair.

Curt Simpson

self

Georgetown, TX

Please pass this important piece of legislation.

Biological men should not be allowed to compete against biological women. If we do not stop this, we would be supporting a lie and, that is not what Texans do.

Stewart Simmons

Family

Austin, TX

Let us maintain common sense and simplicity in Texas by preventing biological males to participate in female sports and vice versa. Let us not let a minority group of transgender people to persuade us in to making decisions that are not long term sustainable for the citizens and families of this great State of Texas. Having two daughters myself, and I'm encouraged with SB 15 that they will be able to participate on a competitive landscape against other same gender at birth individuals given at birth de-risking the fear of possible injury and enabling a healthy competition. I appreciate your consideration of my comments to approve SB 15.

David Carter, Colonel, USAF (retired), Bell County citizen

Self

Temple, TX

I am "For" SB 15, You and everyone need to do what is right - oppose Satanic/Marxist agendas for destroying American culture, values, institutions, and way of life..

Janice Carter

Self

Temple, TX

I am for SB 15 by Middleton.

Pati Bryant

Self

Magnolia, TX

Please vote for this . This is common sense

Ruth York, (1) VP; (2) Interim Chair

(1) Tea Party Patriots of Eastland County; (2) Texas Family Defense Committee; (3) self (Direct sales)

Cisco, TX

We strongly support SB 15. Biological differences in men and women must not be ignored. Just one example: According to Charles Snow for ADFLegal, ". . .high school male athletes have recorded faster times than Olympic-level female athletes. For example, Allyson Felix is the "most successful female track athlete" of all time. According to researchers, her personal best in the 400 meters is 49.26 seconds. In 2017 alone, "men and boys round the world outperformed her more than 15,000 times."

Ignoring the differences sex makes in physiology will erase true women from women's sports.

Please vote IN FAVOR of SB 15.

Christiana Keeler

Self, investor

Austin, TX

I am in favor of SB15. Biological boys or men should not be able to compete in women's sports. Even if a biological man takes hormones or has surgery, their DNA deems them male. It is scientifically proven men have very different physical attributes than women therefore it is not fair for a biological man to compete with a woman. By allowing transgender women (biological males) compete against women this is going backwards in equal rights and is taking away from the women's rights we've achieved over the years.

Sherry Eller

Self

Temple, TX

I SUPPORT SB 15. Please quickly pass SB 15 out of committee. Thank you!

Jane Malin

NAMI Greater Houston

Houston, TX

I am opposed to using biological sex classification at birth to prevent students from participating in sports. This is another bill that harrasses transgender persons. I oppose increasing the likelihood of suicide of LGBTQ+ persons by increasing harrassment. There are other ways to address potential differences relating to transgender conversion. For example, if longer limbs and muscle mass are issues, certain size limits could be established. Likewise, required durations of testosterone suppression could be established. Several examples given about athletes "suddenly" changing indicated they must have had less than one year of testosterone suppression. This bill would have significant negative impacts on a few rare persons, but it more broadly affects the many who cannot ignore the obvious - that it is politically-motivated harrassment that increases pressure on the mental health of LGBTQ+ persons. The argument presented about there only being two sexes is scientifically ridiculous. When a person is assigned an M or F on a birth certificate, it is based on anatomical differences, which are sometimes ambiguous, and it does not take account of invisible but critical hormonal differences. Please vote against this ridiculous and destructive bill.

Isabella Spartz, Ms.

self and student

Richardson, TX

Hello,

I am writing to express my strong concern about the implications of SB 15 relating to students in higher education competing in intercollegiate athletic competitions based on biological sex, which is currently under consideration by your House Committee. As a student, female athlete, and an ally of the trans community, I urge you to vote against passing this bill to the House floor. This bill will have severe negative consequences for the higher education sports community, the LBGTQ+ community, and our state as a whole.

This bill would prevent institutions of higher education from allowing students to compete with their correct gender identity in sports. Addressing the specific concern of trans women and women's sports, according to the ACLU, trans athletes vary in athletic ability just like cisgender athletes. Healthline Media stated that some cisgender women have athletic advantages over other cisgender women because of testosterone levels, wing span, and height. There are many factors to dissect when discussing "athletic advantage"; however, many cisgender women already have an advantage, but they're not getting banned from their sports. It is unfair and discriminatory to ban trans women from their sports based solely on their gender identity.

This bill doesn't protect women's rights; it diminishes them. This bill assumes cis women can't hold their own and targets and endangers trans women. We need to include and embrace ALL athletes and make sure they have a safe place to be themselves. Again, I urge you to vote against this bill and instead vote yes on bills that create better environments for trans athletes and LBGTQ+ individuals in higher education sports.

I urge you to do the right thing and veto SB 15.

Joanie Hanks

Dallas eagle Forum

Dallas, TX

Pass SB15

Kathleen Brown

Self - Board Certified Music Therapist

Temple, TX

I urge you to vote FOR SB 15

Lou Anderson

self

Temple, TX

I absolutely support this bill. Allowing men to compete in a women's category is patently unfair and even dangerous within some sports. Interesting that women's sports was initially a well-conceived effort to ensure females had a platform from which healthy competition could take place. That said, we now find "prevailing cultural whims" are discounting any regard for women and elevating the desires of trans individuals to supersede all other participants.

Steven Rainer

Self / Retired

Houston, TX

I support this bill.

Brad Schier

Self (Women's Volleyball Coach)

Spring, TX

I am a retired VB coach (competitive Club arena) and former player. In my 15+ year coaching career, I worked with young, high-school age female athletes and witnessed how hard these young ladies had to work to realize their full athletic potential. For many, the competition with their peers became overwhelming and they were forced to drop out and (hopefully) pursue other interests. I realize that this can be a natural and healthy process, but to subject these young ladies to the added pressure to compete with biological males is unfair and unacceptable! I realize that SB 15 is to protect the collegiate level, but all women athletes share the same competitive standards and need your support! Safety is also an issue.....there is a reason for the 7" net height difference between men's and women's volleyball. This Bill needs to PASS!

Thank you, Coach Brad

Diana Boyd

self

San Marcos, TX

please vote yes on SB 15. Women need to be able to compete fairly in sports and be safe in their locker and bathrooms! Thank you

Elizabeth Kasper, Mrs.

self

Tomball, TX

I am imploring the senators to vote yes on SB 15 that bans biological males from competing against biological women as transgender women. Biological women have worked very hard over the last 50 years to compete against other biological women. I was only able to compete at the high school level in my junior year after the passage of Title IX. Prior to its passage my female teammates and I could only compete in intramurals, mostly against other teams within our school. It is physically unsafe for biological women to compete against biological males in contact sports. It is unfair that transgender female Lea Thompson stole over 30 wins from biological female swimmers when he only ranked in the 300's in biological male competitions. Also, please tell me why it is permissible for a transgender female (biological male) to walk around nude with biological male genitalia, but it is against the law to expose one's genitals in any other situation? And let's not forget the demeaning of motherhood by not allowing words like "pregnant women" and "mother" in health and science textbooks. To me, it seems that there is a war on women unlike any before that is overturning all of the progress biological females have made. Vote yes for SB 15.

John Davenport, Pastor

Self - Retired Clergy

Salado, TX

This distorted course of inclusiveness would destroy women's college sports as we know it today and deny young girls of the pride, privacy, achievement and scholarships that we thought Title IX so meticulously spelled out years ago.

Sherri Shelton

Self- retired

Midlothian, TX

I would like to see biological men banned from womens sports in every category from middle school- college. It is not appropriate to have women competing against men in sports, nor is it appropriate to have biological men in womens locker rooms.

Jeralee Smith, Physical Therapist, Retired
Self, Retired TX Physical Therapist and CA Special Education Teacher
Bonham, TX

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB15

Jeralee Smith from Bonham, TX

*Retired Physical Therapist. 1972 Loma Linda University, B.S. in P.T.

Practiced in CA, TX, AZ, OH, MI, WY. PT Educator in Clinical Neuro Rehab, LLU, 1974 - '77.

*Retired K-12 CA teacher. 1984, La Sierra U, CA with M.A. Curriculum & Instruction.

Taught 19 years in regular and special education, (learning disabled & physically handicapped)

A body with the female DNA "XX" chromosomes vs. a body with the male "XY" chromosomes has approximately 600 differences with every cell containing either the "XX" or "XY" chromosomes. Full development doesn't occur until about the age of 25 when the brain finally matures. Taking cross sex hormones and having surgery does not reverse all those differences. But they don't all relate to the characteristics that contribute to competitive sports. Here are 3 differences that ARE RELEVANT TO SPORTS: body size, volume of muscle, and structure of muscle tissue.

FACT: Larger "XY" skeletons have a mechanical advantage over smaller skeletons because of the physics of angles and levers acting on the joints.

FACT: Larger "XY" bodies have more muscle volume providing more fast response burst and power.

FACT: Different proportions of muscle tissue types results in differences in initial response speed and strength (or power) and endurance. (Illustration

missing) The larger grayish muscle bundles represent "Quick Twitch" muscle fibers and the smaller bundles are more reddish in color due to

better blood supply are called "Slow Twitch" fibers. Activated quick twitch fibers produce a faster initial burst of speed and power and allow for

heavier lifting. "XY" bodies have a higher proportion of these fibers in their muscles with greater muscle definition. Slow twitch fibers have a

greater blood supply allowing for endurance & faster recovery from strenuous movement.

These differences contribute to an average male "XY" body possessing approximately 30% more strength and initial speed than an average female "XX" body. Specific kinds of training can narrow these differences. But "XY" bodies start with an unfair advantage. It should be obvious that providing FAIR AND EQUITABLE competition requires that we consider the characteristics that actually contribute to high achievement in any sport.

Compare with auto racing. No matter what is done to a Corvette body (paint, racing stripes, spoilers), it's the 12 cylinders under the hood that will win the race. Four cylinder VW Bugs don't stand a chance! We consider these physical differences by providing physically disabled athletes a special category. Why would we destroy fair competition by forcing "XX" athletes to compete with "XY" athletes? Why would anyone want to destroy the long fought for sports between "XX" athletes? Why not provide a special category for "XY" bodies on "XX" hormones? Compassion should go both ways!

William Ross Pumfrey

Self -- retired

AUSTIN, TX

I urge the members of the committee to oppose SB 15.

There is ongoing research that has begun to show that one's "felt" gender may really be different than what appears biologically at birth. What goes on in the brain can be different. See https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2023/05/01/transgender-biology-brain-science-freedom/?utm_campaign=wp_post_most&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&wpisrc=nl_most&carta-url=https%3A%2F%2Fs2.washingtonpost.com%2Fcar-ln-tr%2F39e16b3%2F644fe0d7a61bab12f749dc9d%2F5dc0bf83ade4e25a93846ff4%2F17%2F72%2F644fe0d7a61bab12f749dc9d.

The bottom line is that it is complicated in ways we never realized. I believe that current "anti-trans" proposals do great psychological harm to people who need to confront these phenomena within themselves. I understand that human nature leads many to hang on to old ways of thinking. But we need to be compassionate, rather than, in effect, try to "bully" people to fit our old beliefs.

Thank you for your attention.

Lee Lester, Mr
Republican Party of Harrison County
Longview, TX

Please stop biological men from competing in women sports

Stephanie Kotara
self
Austin, TX

Please protect women in sports.

Mary Virginia Miller, Mrs.
Self, Retired CPA
Huntsville, TX

I strongly support this bill, as the mother of a former Division 1 college athlete, and as a woman who was personally denied participation in sports due to lack of public school equal funding , 1968 - 1971.
My high school, in Bryan, Texas, did not allow formation of a girls basketball team in 1969, despite the fact that our PE teacher volunteered to coach our team without additional compensation. We were told it "was not ladylike". I am still angry today that we were denied that opportunity. Thankfully, in 1995, such antiquated ideas had been overruled, Title IX provided equal funding for girls sports, and my daughter was able to play high school basketball in the Woodlands. After a decades-long fight for equality in funding for women's sports, we CANNOT allow the tiny minority of "trans" people to rob our young BIOLOGICAL WOMEN of the opportunity to compete on a LEVEL PLAYING FIELD. A "trans woman" is NOT a woman at all. It is a man pretending to be a woman, and choosing to mutilate his body to imitate a woman. Every cell in his body is still stamped with MALE genetic code. His bone structure and musculature will forever be different from, and superior to, that of a biological woman. If we allow this travesty to continue, by trampling the rights of biological women, then we will have destroyed all the progress made in the quest for equal opportunities for WOMEN!!! Young women who have worked for years to elevate and perfect their skills will be robbed by men who COULD NOT WIN AGAINST THEIR TRUE BIOLOGICAL PEERS, AND SO INVADDED WOMEN'S SPORTS WHERE THEY KNEW THEIR PHYSICAL SUPERIORITY WOULD DOMINATE. Please support and vote for SB 15, to protect the rights of women athletes against this fraudulent encroachment of men into Women's Sports!!!

Rebekah Warwick, Texas State Director
Heritage Action for America
Mansfield, TX

Chairman Kuempel and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of Senate Bill 15. My name is Rebekah Warwick and I represent Heritage Action for America, a national grassroots organization with two million conservative activists nationwide, including thousands of Texans.

Heritage Action urges the House Higher Education Committee to support Senate Bill 15.

When schools and society ignore biological differences between the sexes, it's girls and women who pay the price. SB 15 protects our collegiate athletes in two key ways:

- 1) Ensures the safety and privacy of our female athletes. The number of stories continues to grow of women suffering head and other serious injuries due to the physically uneven playing field when competing against male athletes presenting themselves as female. These protections also help keep vulnerable spaces private such as locker rooms.
- 2) Empowers young women with educational and career opportunities. One study revealed that 94% of senior female executives played competitive sports. Ensuring we protect women's sports is not just about trophies and scholarships, but ensuring women have the opportunity to get on the playing field in the first place. This bill helps carry out the vision of Title IX to empower women on and off the field.

Polling shows that 67% of Americans oppose allowing biological males who identify as transgender to compete in girls and women's athletics. This common sense bill ensures safety and opportunity for the next generation of women.

Taylor Trevino
self
Austin, TX

I strongly urge all legislators to OPPOSE this bill. Discrimination against trans folks is not acceptable under any circumstances.

Angela M Smith
Fredericksburg Tea Party, Self
Fredericksburg, TX

Thank you for your time! I am VERY EXCITED to see this bill as I was disappointed last session for the limited protection women received. As you know, young women work so hard during their younger years in hopes of earning a college experience. To work that hard, only to find that they are forced to compete with a biological male, is demeaning and does not honor their accomplishments that earned their right to compete on the collegiate state. Thank you for voting this bill out of the committee FAVORABLY! I and my organization look forward to its passage and signed into law!

Angela Smith
Fredericksburg Tea Party

Beverly Cheevers, Mrs.
Self - Admin assistant, childcare worker
Fort Worth, TX

In the interest of fair and true competition, I support allowing intercollegiate athletes to compete based on biological sex alone.

Pauline Lesch
Self
Valley View, TX

I am testifying in support of SB 15. I believe SB 15 is necessary to maintain fairness and protect women competing in intercollegiate sports.

Thousands of young women dedicate themselves to years of rigorous training and preparation in order to compete at the college level. Many earn athletic scholarships to finance their college educations. Hopes and dreams are smashed by biological males who are born with physical advantages.

In 1972 Title IX leveled the playing field for female college athletes. I believe young women who see biological males competing in women's sports will be discouraged from participating in athletics.

Please support SB 15.

Roxy Cramer
Self
Webster, TX

Vote for SB 15. Save women's sports.

Anna lee Aitken
self
Tomball, TX

I am for the passing of this bill. Athletic competitions must be based on biological sex. It is abhorrent to me that this discussion is even taking place. No matter how you manipulate the external or internal makeup of the human body, you cannot change the constructs of the genetic genome. Male and female are inherently different physically. The concept of allowing biological males to compete against biological females in any athletic field is insane. I thought this was addressed with Title 9 that allowed women to compete in and on an even field. There has been a recent study showing that after 1 year of suppression hormones, the male's physical capacity and endurance was mildly affected or diminished. Some experts have suggested it may take 3-5 years of suppression hormones for the male body to be on an equal standing with females. But yet we are asking our female athletes to suck it up and bow down to the almighty biological male (fake female) so he can compete and physically dominate women's sport. There have been documented injuries to female athletes competing in contact sports against biological males (fake females). What does it take to bring this insanity to a stop. Does it take women athletes dying on the field or sustaining life altering injuries. More to the point , why are you not discussing creating a separate league to allow for hormonal suppressed biological males to compete against each other on an even field.

Susanna Reynolds
Self
Marble Falls, TX

Please pass this bill! With the Federal Government changing the language of Title IX, it is imperative that the State of Texas protect women's collegiate sports in its public institutions. Thank you for your diligence in this matter!

Jillian Hrinevich, Mrs
Public school teacher and track coach
Baytown, TX

Good afternoon,

My name is Jillian Hrinevich and I am a proud resident of Texas. I am here in support of Senate Bill 15 and speak with you today as a wife, mother, coach, and a former Division 1 NCAA female athlete.

In college, I was a heptathlete. This is a Women's outdoor track and field event where you compete in 7 events in 2 days. This opportunity was not easily attained. Getting a scholarship to a division 1 college in Texas was a dream of mine that I worked very hard for 8 years to achieve.

When I got to college the hard work was not over. I had to prove that I was good enough, strong enough and fast enough to maintain my scholarship. Again, I was not afraid to put my body through intense training and maintain a diet to be one of the best. Track and field taught me many things. It integrated confidence in me and empowered me to put in the work to get the results I wanted and knew I was capable of.

As I mentioned, I competed in the heptathlon because I am a female. The men competed in the decathlon. This is 10 events in 2 days. Every day I would train with both, the heptathletes and decathletes, but each rep we did was set at different times we must hit, different heights we must jump, and different distances we were expected to throw. This is because men are much stronger, much faster and have an incredibly different muscle mass than women. The height in hurdles is even different for men and women because, again, men are able to perform at a higher level than women. This standard was set many years ago to accommodate these differences.

When you allow biological males to come in and not only compete against women, but also begin to take these scholarships from us then what is the point to title 9?

As I previously stated, I am now a track coach and biology teacher at a high school in Texas. Our goal is not only to coach these young women to be the best athletes they can be, but also build confidence, perseverance and honesty within them. When they leave us, we know they will be strong, young women that stand up for what they believe in and work hard to achieve their biggest dreams and goals in life. How can we continue to do this when they have put in the work and are good enough to get a scholarship, but a biological male is able to come in and quite literally take it from them?

America was built on the idea that hard work pays off. I am a firm believer in the American dream. We have made such a difference for women in America, let's not take steps back. We have to protect women's sports and dreams today and tomorrow.

Thank you for your time,

Jillian Hrinevich
Jturn2015@gmail.com

Joseph Murphy
myself
Fredericksburg, TX

This is sad that we have to have these kinds of discussions. There is and has never been a time in which it is fair to have men compete against women in athletic competition. Anyone who thinks this is simple confused. Men and women are created differently and are designed for specific purposes. This idea that men can have babies is so absurd. The pelvic region of men is too small to accommodate birth. There are a world of reasons to advocate separation of the genders (of which there are only two) in sports competition and only illogical and imaginary arguments for it. I strongly urge this committee to move SB 15 out to the floor and subsequently pass it. The overwhelming majority of Republicans and of the general public find this silly to even think of not passing. Do not allow the casting of doubt on the intelligence of the Texas Legislature.

Jennifer Kratky
Self, homemaker
Magnolia, TX

I strongly support this bill. As a former athlete myself, and as the mother of a current female athlete, I demand fair competition for Texas girls. Vote yes!

Tina Pawelek
self
Poteet, TX

Please save women's sports by allowing only biological women to compete against one another. How many women have lost scholarships, titles, etc because of some dude that can't win in the men's division comes in wearing a wig and sweeps the win in the women's division? This is what you call mental illness. Make it stop! Women deserve better!

Deborah Carr
Self
Houston, TX

Save Women's Sports Act.... I as a native Texan and a proud Christian American of African and European decent encourage you to please bring reason to this debate. I urge you to continue to have compassion on those who are walking with confusion related to their gender identity but clarify for biological girls/women (xx chromosome) that they will compete only with others who are biological girls/women (xx chromosome). It is simply fair and just. Thanks so much for your consideration of this request

Rick Scarborough, President
Recover America
Porter, TX

Testimony Regarding My Support of Senate Bill 15

I fully agree with the following statement in support of SB 15: "We are watching the denial right now of one of the most basic truths out there, which is a refusal to acknowledge the biological difference between men and women," said Sen. Mayes Middleton R, Galveston, during the Senate debate on this bill.

Women should have a fair playing field when competing in sports, and allowing biological men to compete in sports created for biological women is unfair. Furthermore, forcing women to share showers and dressing rooms with biological men is embarrassing, degrading and often traumatizing, for the female athletes. Texas should lead the way in stopping such activities.

I support SB 15, being advanced today by Representative Valoree Swanson. I regret I cannot be in Austin to personally testify, but wanted to let my voice be heard, on behalf of the more than 8,000 Texas Pastors that we communicate with regularly through my organization, Recover America.

Respectfully Subm
itted,

Dr. Rick Scarborough, President
Recover America

Joan Leach
Self
Cedar Park, TX

Please support men/women competing in sport's based on their biological sex. There is a physical difference. Thank you.

Megan Benton, Policy Intern
Texas Values Action and Self
Austin, TX

Thank you, Chairman Kuempel and members of the committee. My name is Megan Benton, and I am a policy intern for Texas Values Action and a Kinesiology major at The University of Texas at Austin. Unfortunately, I am unable to attend the committee hearing for SB 15 in person. However, I would like to be placed on the record as in favor of the bill.

As a Kinesiology major, I have learned firsthand about the biological differences between the sexes. Therefore I cannot in good conscience stand by and allow biological men to steal the awards of and denigrate the accomplishments of biological women. It is unjust and downright cruel to allow biological men to compete in the women's division, knowing full well they are bigger, stronger, and faster. This is not due to their level of training or dedication but rather to their undeniable and unchangeable biological makeup.

Last session, the Texas Legislature took the first step in standing up for the rights of female athletes. However, there is more work to be done. By passing SB 15 out of committee, you will be making a bold statement in favor of protecting the rights so many female athletes hold dear, including myself.

I have been heavily involved in physical activity since I was three years old. Even at such a young age, I understood the differences between boys and girls (men and women) when it comes to strength and body build. This isn't controversial, but there is an agenda being pushed by a radical and small minority of people who do not care about protecting women's rights.

Regardless of how someone identifies, it does not change the biological makeup of a person. Therefore, the emphasis must be on protecting biological women and their accomplishments, not on protecting the feelings of biological men who do not identify with their biological makeup.

It is absolutely absurd that this even needs to be a bill. However, this is the position that the Texas legislature is currently in. Therefore I urge every member of this committee, regardless of political affiliation, to vote in favor of this bill.

If SB 15 isn't passed, female athletes around the state will continue to be harmed and robbed of the opportunities they deserve. Please do not allow this issue to be framed around the feelings of biological men who don't identify with their biological sex.

Please think about the consequences for the female athletes who are emotionally and physically harmed by these policies.

Therefore I urge the committee to vote in favor of Senate Bill 15 and set the record straight. Women have a place in athletics, and biological men like Will Thomas should not be allowed to steal the accomplishments of biological women in the great state of Texas. Thank you.

Sharon Jennings
Self
Spring, TX

Anyone born male needs to compete with that gender.
Anyone born female needs to compete with gender.
Keep women's sports for women!

Becky DeGroat
Representing Becky DeGroat
Mineola, TX

I am urging all members of the House Higher Wducation Committee to vote YES on this critical bill! Protect our women - PLEASE take the noble stand! Do not deny them personal dignity, safety, titles, and records, without which many can suffer repairable financial and professional disadvantages.

The fact is biological women are structured differently from biological men always. This fact is not obliterated when a man transitions to be a woman. The biological man continues to have the advantage!

This is a scientific truth.

Thank you for your service and for seeking to do what is in the highest good for Texas women!
Becky DeGroat

Ashley Tassin
Self
Spring, TX
Support SB15

Julia Keyes
Self
Aledo, TX

I support SB 15 because women in college deserve the same equal athletic opportunities they're afforded in high school. SB 15 is needed because:

Every female athlete—including those in college—deserves to compete on a fair and level playing field. Sadly, we continue to see growing instances nationwide of males dominating women's athletic competitions, especially in college. Allowing men to compete in women's sports shatters dreams and steals opportunities. Title IX guarantees that every female—from kindergarten to college—receives equal opportunities in education and athletics. Texas already fulfills the promise of Title IX to Texas girls in K-12, and that promise shouldn't end when a young woman graduates high school and starts competing in college. The entire purpose of women's sports laws is undermined if we protect fairness for the 18-year-old in high school but refuse to protect her when she steps on the collegiate playing field. For these reasons, I ask the committee to vote in favor of SB 15.

Marguerite Buccino
self, Field Representative, Bureau of Labor Statistics
Dallas, TX

I support SB 15; men and women are biologically different and men competing against women in a physical sport have a distinct and profound advantage. Please pass the bill out of Committee. This is a good bill and I want to see it become law as soon as possible. Thank you.

Dorothy Stephens
na
Houston, TX

Praying for the passage of SB15 - save women's sports act. Come on Texans and do the righteousness thing.

Marcus Allen
Self
Spring, TX

Without modifications except a. clarifications for stricter enforcement, b. penalties of violators and accomplices and c.restoration and process for remedy from damages of those harmed by violators, please pass SB 15 for immediate enforcement upon passage. Also make notification to all Texas Colleges and Universities as well as NCAA that SB 15 will be adhered to without exception. Because of misinformation, predatory intent on children and medical industry seeking profit from transgender issue the public notification and/or press release should include references A. from medical profession about truth of gender dysphoria, B. compliance with ethics requirements and C. US and State Constitutions which protect "inalienable rights" which apply to natural definition of man and woman.

Deborah Farris
Self - retired
Conroe, TX

I am FOR SB 15 which stops biological men from competing against biological women. Men are genetically stronger than women and it is unfair to allow men to take titles and scholarships from women. Please pass this bill!! Thanks

Bonita Winter

self

Cypress, TX

there are two sexes, Male and Female. If someone has gender dysphoria (previously Gender Identity disorder) is an illness. Men and women have different sports for a reason. title 9 was to protect women's sports and now we have to protect women's sports again. for a person with male DNA to be allowed to play and compete with women is not only dangerous it is wrong. they have an unfair advantage in size, musculature, and strength as a man!!!!

Jennifer Miller

Self

Weatherford, TX

Please vote in favor of SB 15 and protect women's sports. Biological men should not be allowed to compete against biology women. The advantage is clear and damaging. Please support our women and SB 15.

Lillian Buchanan, Dr.

Self

Austin, TX

opposed because it represents unequal treatment of some people based on their sex

Jaclyn Hall

Self

Ingram, TX

This is common sense y'all. Men should compete against men, and women should compete against women. Let's acknowledge reality and be the adults. Women athletes are being injured by men who are pretending to be women. Put a stop to this in Texas at least!

Kim McMenamin

self

Austin, TX

While this statute will only apply to Texas public institutions of higher education, it is a step in the right direction to protect our women athletes from unfair competition in intercollegiate sports by biological males.

Steven Drake, Graduate Student

Self

Austin, TX

Hello, my name is Steven Drake and as a native-born LGBTQ+ Texan I urge the committee to vote NO on Senate Bill 15 (Middleton). This bill will harm trans Texans who wish to compete in college athletics - an integral part of a student's college experience for many. Indeed, this bill will also harm Texans who are not trans but may still be discriminated against because of the lack of clarity in the bill. What is to stop someone of wrongly accusing someone playing on the wrong team thereby opening up an investigation that will waste precious time and resources on a non-issue. This legislation focuses on a non-issue as trans athletes make up an incredibly small percentage of athletes in Texas. Additionally, those athletes that do compete in athletics pose no threat to other athletes and are not taking spots away from cisgender women - they just want to play the sport they love with teammates who they care about. To say that this bill protects women and ensures fairness is an insult to women of all backgrounds because it assumes they cannot compete against other people successfully. It is an assumption rooted in misogyny and is the true origin of unfairness in women's sports that has plagued it since its inception. Additionally, many athletic bodies at higher levels of competition require a certain time span of taking hormones suppressors for trans athletes as a measure of "fairness" so trans athletes are already under restrictions to compete. Additional restrictions are not necessary. Trans athletes just want to play sports on the team that makes them feel most like themselves - what makes them feel the most human. Please don't dehumanize Texans and deny them their ability to compete. Again, I urge you to vote NO on SB 15 for the sake of all Texas students.

Molly White

Self

Sonora, TX

As a woman, former State Representative, wife, mother and grandmother of girls, I'm writing to express my support for SB 15. Protect women's sports for women.

Larry Simpson

self

Georgetown, TX

Please keep biological males OUT of female athlete competition. Thank you. Larry Simpson

Martha Schuh

self

San Antonio, TX

There are proven differences in physical capabilities between those born female vs those born male, so it is completely unfair to biological females to allow biological males to compete. What is even more unfair is that biological males are allowed to compete as women even when they have not undergone surgery to remove their male sex organs. It would still be unfair to allow them to compete against women, but at the very least, they should have completed transitioning if they truly believe that they should be treated as women.

Susan Anderson, Dr.

Texas UU Justice Ministry

Benbrook, TX

According to my faith, each person has inherent worth and dignity. That includes those who identify as transgender. There was a time when women were excluded from sports due to their gender. Let's not make this mistake again-excluding people from sports due to their gender. Let's keep politics out of sports! Trans-Texans should be allowed to play sports without having to navigate harassment and discrimination.

Grace Pankl

Self - Retail Sales Associate & Front Desk worker

Austin, TX

I'm writing to respectfully ask the committee to please vote against SB 15. To ban people from sports simply because of who they are is needlessly cruel. Transgender students deserve the opportunity to be included, and to exclude these students from sports in effect acts as a permission slip for them to be excluded from other facets of the college community as well. This bill won't only hurt transgender students but will hurt all students, no matter their gender. To allow discrimination based on one aspect of someone's identity leaves the door open for discrimination to happen on so many different levels. We have seen this happen when these types of bans have been put in place in higher level sports as well, when cis and intersex women also end up being banned from sports they've played their whole lives simply because of their natural testosterone levels. We've also seen how when these bans are placed on lower level athletics for children that what can end up happening is that it directly targets one transgender child, making it an entire law put in place to bully one kid in one town who simply wanted to play a sport they love with their friends. I feel certain that these are exactly the type of situations that will happen if we ban transgender students from college athletics. This bill is pointless, solves nothing, is harmful to everyone, and is completely discriminatory and hateful. Please vote against SB 15 - thank you so much for your time in reading my testimony.

Paul Yamarick

Self

Moulton, TX

I highly endorse SB15. A trans person can not reimagine their created sex, especially in the locker room and in competition.

Kathy Lux
Self/retired RN
Fredericksburg, TX

I am in favor of this bill being passed. Men should not compete in women's events. They are bigger, stronger and have many other biological differences which makes their participation in sports competing against biological women potentially dangerous.

D'Anne Thompson
Self
Buchanan Dam, TX

Biological males should not be competing in Women's sports. Thank you

Alex Helm
Self, Marketing Coordinator
Denton, TX

I am against this bill.

Jennifer Loving
Self, Self-employed
Temple, TX

Please vote in support of SB 15.

Diana Richards
Self and Texas Education 911
Sherman, TX

As a 7th Generation Texan and Mother of school-aged children, I am FOR SB15. As I have followed the hearing today before and after the full House met, we have seen that SB15's opponents have contradicted themselves through their testimonies that there are no trans athletes competing yet those same testifiers stated that they were in fact trans athletes. Do I fear that biological females will get hurt when up against female (FTM) competitors who are allowed to continue their performance enhancing hormones? Yes. The problem is not the athlete -- but the medical predation and unfair advantages of either male bio bodies or females taking performance enhancing drugs. SB15 will protect women's sports, but it is only a bandaid if the continuation of Testosterone then gives FTM trans athletes to not only beat but injure their female competitors.

Heather Daoust
Self, homemaker
Dripping Springs, TX

I beg of you as a mother of 4 to maintain standards for all gender-specific spaces, especially sports. There have been too many examples of women being subjected to dangerous and inappropriate behavior, while also losing their footing in a sport they've worked hard in for years. We need to stand up for the women and the conservative values of this state. Do not put our young ladies through this unnecessary discomfort and rejection. Please fight hard to maintain the standards that were set when separate sports teams were created.

T. Dan Tolleson
self
Houston, TX

Please bring common sense back into intercollegiate sports. (I can't believe that we now have to legislate what used to be common sense.)

Bonnie Wallace

Retired/Self

Llano, TX

Protect our girls! Vote YES on this bill.

Dana Oakes

Self

Humble, TX

Let's keep the boys out of girls sports. Just because you put on a pair of panties doesn't mean you are a girl. Protect our girls!