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et al.

H.B. No. 229

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to general definitions for and collection of governmental  
3 information regarding biological sex.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. FINDINGS. The legislature finds that:

6 (1) males and females possess unique immutable  
7 biological differences that manifest prior to birth and increase as  
8 individuals age and experience puberty;

9 (2) biological differences between the sexes mean that  
10 only females are able to get pregnant, give birth, and breastfeed  
11 children;

12 (3) biological differences between the sexes mean that  
13 males are, on average, bigger, stronger, and faster than females;

14 (4) biological differences between the sexes leave  
15 females more physically vulnerable than males to specific forms of  
16 violence, including sexual violence;

17 (5) females have historically suffered discrimination  
18 in education, athletics, and employment;

19 (6) biological differences between the sexes are  
20 enduring and may, in some circumstances, warrant the creation of  
21 separate social, educational, athletic, or other spaces in order to  
22 ensure individuals' safety and allow members of each sex to succeed  
23 and thrive;

24 (7) inconsistencies in court rulings and policy

1 initiatives with regard to the definitions of "sex," "male,"  
2 "female," "man," and "woman" have led to endangerment of single-sex  
3 spaces and resources, necessitating clarification of certain  
4 terms;

5 (8) in the context of biological sex:

6 (A) "equal" does not mean "same" or "identical";  
7 and

8 (B) separate is not inherently unequal;

9 (9) there are legitimate reasons to distinguish  
10 between the sexes with respect to athletics, prisons and other  
11 correctional facilities, domestic violence shelters, rape crisis  
12 centers, locker rooms, restrooms, and other areas where biology,  
13 safety, or privacy are implicated;

14 (10) policies and laws that distinguish between the  
15 sexes are subject to intermediate constitutional scrutiny, which  
16 forbids unfair discrimination against similarly situated males and  
17 females but allows the law to distinguish between the sexes where  
18 such distinctions are substantially related to important  
19 governmental objectives; and

20 (11) each individual is one of two sexes, male or  
21 female, and individuals diagnosed with a disorder of sex  
22 development or as intersex:

23 (A) are not considered to belong to a third sex;  
24 and

25 (B) must receive accommodations in accordance  
26 with state and federal law.

27 SECTION 2. Section [311.005](#), Government Code, is amended by

1 adding Subdivisions (14), (15), (16), (17), (18), (19), and (20) to  
2 read as follows:

3 (14) "Boy" means a child of the male sex.

4 (15) "Father" means a parent of the male sex.

5 (16) "Female" and "woman" mean an individual whose  
6 biological reproductive system is developed to produce ova.

7 (17) "Girl" means a child of the female sex.

8 (18) "Male" and "man" mean an individual whose  
9 biological reproductive system is developed to fertilize the ova of  
10 a female.

11 (19) "Mother" means a parent of the female sex.

12 (20) "Sex" means an individual's biological sex,  
13 either male or female.

14 SECTION 3. Chapter 2051, Government Code, is amended by  
15 adding Subchapter G to read as follows:

16 SUBCHAPTER G. VITAL STATISTICS INFORMATION COLLECTION

17 Sec. 2051.251. DEFINITION. In this subchapter,  
18 "governmental entity" has the meaning assigned by Section 2051.041.

19 Sec. 2051.252. VITAL STATISTICS INFORMATION COLLECTION BY  
20 GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY. A governmental entity that collects vital  
21 statistics information that identifies the sex of an individual for  
22 the purpose of complying with antidiscrimination laws or for the  
23 purpose of gathering public health, crime, economic, or other data  
24 shall identify each individual as either male or female.

25 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.