HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMPILATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Submitted to the Committee on State Affairs

For HB 229

Compiled on: Friday, April 25, 2025 8:00 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: April 25, 2025 8:00 AM

Kevin A Hale

The Libertarian Party of Texas

Dallas, TX

A Top-Down Redefinition of Personal Identity
HB 229 mandates that all Texas government agencies define and collect sex-based data using strictly binary, biologically grounded terms. It inserts specific definitions of "man," "woman," "male," "female," and related terms into state statute and compels agencies to classify individuals accordingly. While framed as a clarification, the bill instead enshrines rigid, government-enforced identity standards into law.
Individual Identity Should Not Be Legislated by the State
The Libertarian Party of Texas (LPTexas) strongly believes that individuals are the sole proprietors of their own identity (Platform § I.1.a, § I.4.a). HB 229 places the state in the position of determining personal identity through biological criteria—an unjustified intrusion into individual autonomy. Government should not be in the business of defining or policing who someone is.
Government Data Collection Should Be Minimal and Voluntary
This bill also expands mandatory data collection practices by requiring all government entities to classify individuals strictly as male or female when collecting vital statistics (Platform § I.4.a). LPTexas opposes excessive data collection and state tracking of personal information. This kind of legislation does not reduce government—it expands it under the guise of traditionalism.
Freedom Means Freedom for Everyone
While HB 229 claims to protect women's spaces and clarify public policy, it does so by empowering the state to enforce identity norms rather than allowing voluntary association or private solutions. LPTexas believes that issues of privacy, safety, and fairness are best addressed through consensual, decentralized, and context-specific decisions—not blanket mandates from Austin.
Conclusion
The Libertarian Party of Texas opposes HB 229. It expands the scope of government power into personal identity and data classification, violating principles of individual liberty, privacy, and limited government. Texans should be free to define themselves, and no law should empower the state to reduce identity to biology alone. We urge lawmakers to reject this unnecessary and intrusive legislation.

Jennifer Loehlin

self, retired

Austin, TX

I am opposed to HB 229 because reality is more complicated than a strict gender binary. It's sort of like when legislatures attempt to make pi equal to some rational number.

Sharon Mineo
Self, Admin
Austin, TX

As a recent viral video of a legislator who did not understand the term "intersex" made painfully obvious, the people pushing anti-trans legislation do not themselves understand biological sex, and therefore should not be legislating about it. I oppose this bill.

Francis Netscher
Self - tech worker
Austin, TX

This is going to create unnecessary confusion, building costs, and regulations. I expected better from a DOGE committee membwr

Hannah Jala
self
Austin, TX

I urge the committee to vote NO on HB 229. The bill’s language defines male and female solely by reproductive ability. Considering as many as one in four Texas couples struggle with infertility, this is deeply offensive. Again, I’m asking they vote NO on HB 229 and spend their time on issues that will actually improve the lives of Texans.

Cathryn Emory
Self
Austin, TX

No to this ill conceived bill - there is innumerable scientific data and actual People that exists that challenges the “ only male and female” notion. Many people have varying hormone and genetic markers and make the either or option obsolete.

Jennifer Larrew
Self
Lakeway, TX

I oppose HB 229 and find it very harmful. Gender is fluid. MANY people fall outside of the limits of "man" and "woman" and by only accepting those definitions, we are invalidating the lived experience of many Texans. We are witnessing first hand with the federal government, what happens when we cannot validate each others experiences. I honestly do not know what is so threatening about someone being non-binary or trans. No one is trying to groom anyone else's kids. I live near Troxclair and can tell you that in our community, our gender fluid citizens want to be left alone and allowed to just be. They are not threatening or trying to hurt anyone's kids. Being inclusive to gender fluid people does not threaten you and your gender roles.

Cindy Asmussen
Southern Baptists of Texas Convention/Public Policy Advisor
Grapevine, TX

Members of the Committee, the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, which has more than 2,800 Texas churches, supports HB 229.

This bill is important because for many years activists have sought to normalize, convince, and confuse an alarming number of children and adults into believing they are trapped in the wrong body, that gender is socially constructed or self-determined based upon feelings and wishes, a fluidity and perceived gender identity, instead of biological reality, scientific fact, reason, and God-ordained identity. It is an agenda that tells them there is no absolute truth.

Our Texas convention has spoken to this issue for many years. From the beginning, 'God made man in His image, male and female He made them' (Genesis 1:27). Jesus said that because of this, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh,' (Mark 10:6-8). Scripture is clear in the distinctions he gives us as human beings- male and female, man/woman, mother/father, husband/wife.

Gender is God-given, and these gender distinctions are rooted in creation and manifested in clear biological differences, that transcend social customs and cultural stereotypes, or any inner feelings that claim to be more socially significant than the reality of our biological sex.

God distinctively made male and female with substantive differences including at the objective, scientific level of genetics, anatomy, physiology, psychology, and reproduction. One's sex is never "assigned at birth"; it is always objective and observable-even in the womb-and any notion that sex should be assigned at birth, or later assigned for the individual to decide is not only saying God made a mistake, but denies biological reality and an individual their God-given identity.

Finally, this is a public safety issue. Laws and policies that allow men open access to private intimate facilities designed for women and/or children puts them at risk of attack and trauma. Our convention supports protecting the privacy and safety of women and children in public bathrooms, showers, locker rooms, shelters, sports, etc. We encourage elected officials and policy makers to create a much-needed uniform policy for this privacy and safety and set clear distinctions between the biological sexes. We urge you to vote FOR HB229.

Kelsey Wise
self
Lewisville, TX

Hello, my name is Kelsey Wise, and I am speaking in strong opposition to HB229

This bill isn't just theoretical. It has already disrupted my life in real ways. My husband is a trans man. Because of laws like this one, he has to navigate life with mismatched documents-his drivers license and social security card show his correct name and gender, but his passport has his correct name and wrong gender and his birth certificate still has both the wrong name and gender.

Do you know what it's like to face constant roadblocks just to prove who you are? To worry that a job application or TSA agent might question your legitimacy at any moment? That's what we live with-every day.

HB229 locks human lives into a system that refuses to recognize them. This bill does not protect anyone. In fact, it does quite the opposite-punishing people simply for living honestly and openly. I love my husband and refuse to let this government tell him or me, that he doesn't exist.

Please vote no on HB229. Do not use policy to erase identities and complicate our lives even further.

Thank you.

Harper Walker
Self - Unemployed
Austin, TX

I would also like to remind those of you attempting to take away freedoms you have no right to, it says VERY clearly in the Constitution that you cannot prevent American citizens from traveling state to state FOR ANY REASON!!! So this bill is straight up illegal and if you ignore this fact and try to push it through anyway, you will have a fight on your hands. Even if all I can do is get a bunch of us — too many to arrest — to sit in front of your office door in protest and refuse to move to let you in until you throw out this CLEARLY UNCONSTITUTIONAL BILL, I WILL!!! Ultimately, y'all WILL lose this because the Constitution is on OUR SIDE in regard to this, so save yourselves the trouble of losing, tear up this completely unconstitutional bill, and BACK OFF!!!

Tara Arrambide
Self
Denison, TX

It is insane to me, as someone with a degree in biology, that in congruence exists between the state's documentation of citizens where the term "Sex" and the term "gender" are used interchangeably. They are, as recognized by the scientific and medical communities respectively, recognized as 2 distinct and different categorizations of a living persons characteristics. Gender refers to psychological distinctions whereas sex refers to a physiological distinction. It is the opinion of myself and others involved in science and lawmaking, that bills such as HB 229 fall flat of addressing them both. People (like Troxclair) seem to believe they know better than the experts, and deem them (sex and gender) one and the same. They are not, and they are readily observable in individuals from adults to children. Do not misinterpret what I am saying, I do not mean we should be advocating for sex changes, what I do mean is that we should be recognizing them both, and understanding that documenting both is how we maintain a society where both individual liberty/autonomy, and individual privacy/safety are given due respect, and recognition. It is for the aforementioned reasons why bills like this need to be taken back to the drawing board so that common ground may be found between transgender individuals, and the public at large.

Denise Chroscinski
Grass Roots Mansfield
Mansfield, TX

Male is XY and Female is XX - pass this bill

Mary Koch
self -retired
Houston, TX

I strongly urge all Committee members to oppose moving HB 229 out of Committee and delay any further action on this hurtful and unnecessary bill. This bill imposes indisputable definitions of sex, gender, and parenthood on individuals and is an affront to persons of the LGBTQ community.

Margeaux Maledon
Self
Lakeway, TX

I don't understand how this is an effective use of your time as our government. We have homeless people in the streets, kids missing meals, whole neighborhoods are falling apart. And this is where you choose to focus your time? And I'd like to think that we would also consider the fact that there are intersex children who Don't align with either XX or XY chromosomes. You can Google it these people exist. I have a close personal front that is one. What are they supposed to do?

Laura Miller
self
Austin, TX

I oppose HB 229 because it endangers trans, intersex, and nonbinary Texans and their ability to live and be recognized authentically.

Yesenia Salazar
Women's Declaration International
Austin, TX

Thank you, members of the Committee, for allowing me to testify in support of HB 229. My name is Yesenia Odalyss Salazar and I live in the City of Austin, State of Texas.

Women's Declaration International (WDI) is a global, nonpartisan group of volunteer women dedicated to protecting women's sex-based rights. Women's Declaration International USA, Inc. (WDI USA) is its U.S. chapter. WDI promotes the Declaration on Women's Sex-Based Rights (the Declaration), which has more than 39,000 signatures globally.

Our interest in this bill is based upon Article 1 of the Declaration, "Reaffirming that the rights of women are based upon the category of sex." "Sex" refers to reproductive biology, whereas the stereotyped sex roles of masculinity and femininity enforced on both sexes (that is, "gender") are a fundamental aspect of women's inequality and must be eliminated.

The Declaration provides: "States should maintain the centrality of the category of sex, and not 'gender identity', in relation to women's and girls' right to be free from discrimination." It does this because women and girls face discrimination based on our biology as females, and we are unable to "identify" our way out of sex discrimination. The Declaration further provides that this centrality of biological sex "should include the retention in law, policies and practice of the category of woman to mean adult human female, the category of lesbian to mean an adult human female whose sexual orientation is towards other adult human females, and the category of mother to mean a female parent; and the exclusion of men who claim to have a female 'gender identity' from these categories."

There is, therefore, a conflict between "gender identity" and sex in policy. Sex is determined at conception and observed at or before birth; "gender identity" is nothing more than sex-role stereotypes. These regressive stereotypes are materially harmful to women and should not be codified in law or policy.

WDI USA fully supports the protection of equal rights for all people who do not conform to sex-role stereotypes. We have proposed our own federal bill, called the "Equality For All Act" (EFAA). It provides comprehensive federal civil rights protection for women and girls on the basis of sex, for homosexuals of both sexes based on sexual orientation (which is based on sex), and for everyone on the basis of nonconformity with sex-role stereotypes. It does not provide any additional protection based on subjective feelings, which are unverifiable and not subject to discrimination. It is the state of being female that requires protection from sex discrimination.

Because HB 229 would define sex in a way that is consistent with the Declaration, WDI USA supports this bill.

Yesenia Odalyss Salazar
Signatory, Declaration of Women's Sex-Based Rights

Leslie Thomas
Self/ SREC 22
Blum, TX

Support this common sense identity recording

Krystal Karim, Mx.
Self
Austin, TX

OPPOSE THIS BILL. This bill aims to directly erase the legal existence of and harm trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. This bill would also justify discrimination on the basis of sex. There are less than 1% of trans people in the U.S., this is outrageous and would harm those, like myself & people I love, who just want to live our lives with dignity, respect, and in peace. Oppose this bill.

Cecilia Wood
attorney
Austin, TX

I support HB 229. If we are going to bother to use sex as an identifier for the benefit of the government, then it needs to be reliable. Sex is not man made and is immutable. It is a consistent identifier. Gender is man made, limited only by one's imagination, and fluid from day to day and moment to moment. It serves no useful government purpose.

Jake Wilson
Self - CPA
Fort Worth, TX

HB229 takes the important step of defining male and female. As the text of HB229 points out, "…there are legitimate reasons to distinguish between the sexes with respect to athletics, prisons and other correctional facilities, domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, locker rooms, restrooms, and other areas where biology, safety, or privacy are implicated;…"

I support HB229 being voted out of committee and moving to the floor. Thank you Representative Troxclair for bringing HB229!

Also, I hope the State Affairs Committee will soon set a hearing for SB11 and HB1425.

Thank You,

Jake Wilson
Fort Worth, TX
SD9 and HD91

Dan Farcasiu, Dr.

self (scientist, university professor, now retired)

Taylor, TX

I speak from the scientific viewpoint. Science represents natural facts & relationships that are prior to science &* mental representations. Science is hard, cold, uncaring, but objective. Objectively there are no trans women & trans men, only emasculated males & hirsutized females.

The widespread alternative, aberrant, representation is pushed by mental derangement, lust for power, & greed, accepted by ignorance, gullibility & fear.

A living organism is assembly of molecules possessing metabolism. A normal organism possesses ability to reproduce (participate in the reproduction of the species). Humans as a species have sexual reproduction and there are only two sexes within the species, male & female.

Sex/gender dysphoria is a mental condition & should be treated like all other such conditions, not by mutilating a body & forcing all others to pretend they don't see it.

As a first step toward societal sanity, a definition in law of sex in humans is essential.

It will protect the species from threatened extinction.

It will protect the potential victims of propaganda & brainwashing from destroying their bodies

It will protect valuable resources from being wasted on destructive "treatments."

Coupled with right-to -know measures will protect us, individually, from potential damage from actions of person less than perfectly balanced mentally. (I ,for instance, think that a man who saw himself in the mirror & decided he is a woman, can as well see me on the operating table & decide I am a side of beef, then carve me into steaks. I request the right to be informed & to refuse a surgeon with that condition,)

Julie Hall

None

Fort Worth, TX

Stay out of people's medical care!

Claire Balladares

Self

San Angelo, TX

House Bill 229 aims to establish two genders to "protect women" when, reading the bill, it seems to be more aimed at erasing transgender and gender queer identities from government documents and facilities. We need more protection for women and children, but this is not the way to go about it. Trans women suffer and incredible amount of violence, and this bill does not seek to protect them. It seeks to label them as biologically male. You cannot stop transgender people from existing by requiring biological sex on government forms. It will only enable prejudice and violence against women who don't fit an arbitrary definition set forth by an undiverse group. This bill is a misguided attempt at protecting girls and women, as it doesn't specify how it would go about implementing that besides establishing guidelines for two seperate sexes, male and female. I care about myself and the women in my life, I do not see this bill helping any of us.

D.S. Zamora

Self/Retired

Houston, TX

If this is going to cost $2.5 M, the answer is no.

Do **NOT** give any more bill hearings to this bill author. Too expensive.

JoAnn Fleming, Executive Director
Grassroots America - We the People PAC
Flint, TX

Grassroots America strongly supports HB 229 by Troxclair. Dubbed the “What is a Woman” bill, this legislation makes the definition of “woman” and “man” clear in state law and grants legal protection to defend women’s single-sex spaces and opportunities.
Women and men are defined based on biological sex determined at birth with regards to the respective Creator design of reproductive organs. A female is an individual whose biological reproductive system is designed to produce ova while a male is defined as an individual whose biological reproductive system is designed to fertilize the ova of a female.
Gender or “the sexes” is a settled biological fact. It is immovable. There are only two sexes – male and female. These biological FACTS must be codified into Texas law to protect girls and women from the very real physical danger and discrimination now emanating from an indulgence in cultural fantasy.
We urge you to pass HB 229 quickly out of committee and work hard to push it to the House floor for a vote.

Lauren Campbell
Self
Austin, TX

Y’all are genuinely so stupid if you think there are only 2 sexes. Information is so easily available, and anyone who has spent time learning science knows that there are also intersex individuals and that defined sex is on a spectrum, meaning the existence and prevalence of outliers. Obsessed with the language that females are less strong and tall and fast than males; again you are not considering the range that exists around us. Legally trying to encode incorrect “information” to society is laughable, pathetic, and suuuuch loser behavior. Cope with your emotions privately and leave the public alone!

Tammy Houston, LPCA
Self
Friendswood, TX

I support this bill and doe not believe these terms related to biological sex can ever be “outdated” as some in my profession field including educators push upon me. They teach against coercion yet practice it regarding LGBTQ+ policies

Kathy Ponce
Self
Maypearl, TX

I support this bill 100%.
Time for Texas to stand on its Republican values that a man is a man and a woman is a woman and you are your biological sex

Aquiel Warner
Myself
Pflugerville, TX

Good Afternoon,

My name is Aquiel Warner, and I am a 3rd year medical student. After hearing further testimony from Rep. Troxclair, I feel it is necessary to state that some individuals, including in Swyer Syndrome, are born with undifferentiated gonads. They have what are called gonadal streaks, which are neither testes or ovaries, and do not have the potential to develop ova or sperm. They are actually recommended to be removed, as they represent an increased cancer risk for these individuals.

Thank you,
Aquiel

Elizabeth Esparza
Self
Austin, TX

I do not support this bill. The state has no right to interfere in an individual’s privacy in this way. Mind your own business!

Chance Daily, Mr
Self (Barista)
Amarillo, TX

This is a gross overreach of a government which claims to be represented by people who support minimally invasive policies. Peoples bodies are not political spaces and the government has no right to collect biological information. It breaches medical law and common sense.

Cindy Fountain
TX Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry/Member
Cleburne, TX

I oppose this bill. This is a deeply misguided, factually inaccurate bill that seeks to define "biological sex" as immutable, strictly binary, and based solely on an individual's reproductive capacity, and would prevent intersex, nonbinary, and trans people from updating government documentation. Not allowing people to be able to conduct their civic lives in dehumanizing and unconstitutional. I urge you to vote against this bill.
Thank you,
Cindy Fountain
Cleburne, TX

Linda Ricks
Self
Midlothian, TX

Dear Members,

I support this bill. Please vote it out of committee.

Thanks,
Linda Ricks

Carrie Ives
self
Richardson, TX

This is going to cost $2 million dollars to make a political statement that Texas wants to make life as hard as possible for people who don't fit into neat little boxes. Please learn more about the complexities of human biology. What do you do with kids that are born with both male and female reproductive organs? I don't want my tax dollars wasted on more grandstanding.

Sarah Beck
Self
Austin, TX

I am a born and raised Texan and I strongly oppose this bill. HB 229 is an unnecessary bill that does not benefit Texans. It is a harmful bill that attempts to erase the existence transgender and intersex folks, and is not founded in science. Please vote NO on HB 229. Thank you.

Beverly Gatlin
Self
Italy, TX

I support this Bill.

Amber Gentry
Self
Fort Worth, TX

Vote NO

Emily Miller
Self
Prosper, TX

Yes. Biological males should not be allowed in female sports

Beverly Gatlin
Self
Italy, TX

I support this Bill.

Chris Donofrio
Self
The Woodlands, TX

I STRONGLY OPPOSE HB 229.

The problem with creating a definition of “sex” based solely on biological sex is an act of hubris.
Such hubris is perfectly illustrated by HB 229.

We still do not understand what a definition of “biological sex” has to include to be correct, or even appropriate.
As technology has improved, we have discovered unexpected and unknown relationships involving genes, biochemical reactions, and the complexity of the brain’s neural wiring. It is no longer accurate, or ethical, to base any definition of biological sex on just anatomy and function.

HB 229 provides definitions for male and female that are incomplete.
So, let’s cut through the BS and focus on the elephant in the room. These definitions, should HB 229 pass, will fuel the ongoing transgender moral crisis created by Republican politicians, and which the 41 Republican authors and coauthors of HB 229 are strongly pushing.
Last session (88-R) it was all about defining male and female based on the presence or absence of a Y-chromosome. Those bills directly targeted transgender individuals.

Today it’s the need to protect females from discrimination by trans-females. Best highlighted by protecting female athletes from an apparent throng of trans-female athletes. There is no throng, just several. An incomplete definition provides a simple, legally-binding definition. The moral crisis can go on.

What’s missing from HB 229’s definitions? Gender. As long as that can be severed from a definition of biological sex, it becomes a strawman against discrimination, and for repression.

Unfortunately for the authors and coauthors of HB 229, recent research has linked gender identity, anatomy, and function as crucial components in any biological sex-based definition. At present we know that at least 6 genes are involved in gender identity, regardless of the sex assigned at birth, or the anatomy-function definitions in HB 229.

This is far more significant than just seeking a better, more accurate definition.
What researchers are learning now and into the future can help treat serious medical conditions for non-trans individuals. For us, it’s why Gender Dysphoria replaced Gender Identity Disorder in DSM-5. Gender dysphoria is a medical condition that is treatable.

I STRONGLY OPPOSE HB 229.
Please kill it in Committee.

Respectfully, Chris J Donofrio

Tyler Landrum
self, inventory management
Austin, TX

Oppose. The information presented in this bill is lacking in scientific basis, dependent on personal assumptions which vary considerably, and does nothing to aid the purposes of government.

Nancy Kaechler
Self retired
Houston, TX

The Republicans have made their position known. As representatives of our party, we expect you to support our position.

Maria Person
self, Director
Austin, TX

Please vote no on HB 229. The bill endangers nonbinary, transgender and intersex Texans. They struggle to live authentic lives already. Additional legislation that makes their lives more difficult is not helpful.

Patricia Brown
Self
Katy, TX

I oppose HN229

Dylan Chavarria, Mr.
Self
San Antonio, TX

Reject this bill. This bill if passed would allow and justify discrimination based on sex and gender, hurting regular women and trans and gender expansive Texans.

Kathryn Anderson
Self
Austin, TX

I am writing to strongly urge you to vote NO on HB 229. This bill seeks to mandate a rigid, binary definition of sex in Texas law, reducing the rich diversity of human experience to an oversimplified and exclusionary framework.

HB 229 does more than just define terms — it erases people. By forcing all governmental entities to classify Texans strictly as male or female, the bill invalidates the identities of nonbinary, intersex, and transgender individuals who already face discrimination and barriers to public services.

Government should serve and reflect all Texans — not impose outdated definitions that marginalize entire communities. Our laws should be rooted in inclusion, science, and compassion, not political ideology.

HB 229 will have real and harmful consequences:

It could deny accurate representation in public health and education data.

It may restrict access to affirming services.

It sends a message to LGBTQ+ Texans — especially youth — that they are not seen or respected.

Please stand up for the dignity, privacy, and humanity of all your constituents. Vote NO on HB 229.

David Welch, Rev.
Texas Pastor Council
Spring, TX

I represent over one thousand pastors and their churches across every color, every corner of the state who have been standing together for over twenty years on issues spoken to clearly from the Word of God. There is no more foundational issue than God's beautiful design of and distinctions between male and female as the bedrock of all created order and deeply embedded in six thousand years of human history. Our pastors include the notable "Houston Five" whose sermons and more were subpoenaed by the former Mayor of Houston for leading a difficult but successful stand to keep biological males out of females' private facilities. In 2015 in the largest city in Texas, and a historically Democrat led city, over sixty one percent of voters agreed and voted down the Mayor's effort. HB 229 addresses a long overdue essential matter of stating the proven scientific, biological, physical, emotional and even spiritual distinctions between male and female at the state level so we do not have a state of chaos city by city across Texas. This is a public policy that should have never had to be even put on the table if there weren't radical cultural and political forces at work to destroy the core foundational principles of our nation in order to remake it in a godless, amoral and ultimately destructive end. It is however necessary. We give one hundred ten percent support to the passage of HB 229 by this committee, the House, Senate and signed by the Governor.

Jayme Moore
Self - MSN/Women's Health
Austin, TX

My name is Jayme Moore, and I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Bill 229. This bill seeks to define "biological sex" in rigid, binary terms, disregarding the scientific reality that sex characteristics exist on a spectrum.?

Biologically, individuals can be intersex, meaning they are born with physical sex characteristics that do not fit typical definitions of male or female. This can include variations in chromosomes, gonads, hormones, or genitalia. Estimates of intersex prevalence vary; some studies suggest that approximately 1.7% of the population has intersex traits, while others estimate a lower prevalence of about 0.018%, depending on the definitions used (Blackless et al., 2000). These statistics mean somewhere between 10,000 and 500,000 Texans do not fit your rigid, binary definition.

On a genetic and hormonal level, sex determination is complex. For example, individuals with Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome have XY chromosomes but develop typically female characteristics due to the body's inability to respond to male hormones. Such variations demonstrate that sex is not strictly binary but encompasses a range of biological expressions.?

By enforcing a narrow definition of biological sex, HB 229 fails to acknowledge these natural variations and could lead to the exclusion and discrimination of intersex individuals. This approach undermines the dignity and rights of those who do not fit into the traditional male/female categories.?

I urge legislators to consider the scientific evidence and the lived experiences of intersex people. Policies should reflect biological realities and promote inclusivity, not enforce oversimplified and exclusionary definitions.

Tanya Guthrie
self / retired
Austin, TX

I am against HB 229.

Lisa Brenskelle
self
Houston, TX

There are not just two genders, as is well-known medically. 1 - 2% of the population is intersex, which means that they are neither exclusively male nor female. Science recognizes this as part of the inherent diversity of the human species, not an aberration. Intersex traits may not emerge until puberty, in some cases, thus sex defined at birth may well be wrong. Having incorrect information in records is a very bad idea. We should always strive to be accurate in records, and for legislation to reflect reality. Reality is that that there are not just two genders!
There are other issues with this bill, for example, with father defined solely as the parent of the male sex regardless of the status of their rights to the children or relationship with them. And, this bill reduces women to their reproductive organs, which is demeaning.
This bill does not reflect reality, whether scientific understanding of gender, or the reality of the different people who may be mother/father in the life of a child.
Please vote NO on this bill.

Rebekah Rivera
Self, Professsional Educator and Nonprofit Advocate
Houston, TX

My name is Rebekah Rivera and I oppose HB 229. I believe this bill is a waste of time and unnecessary. This bill accomplishes nothing to improve the lives of Texans. The purpose of government is to protect the vulnerable and to help provide services for the betterment of society that citizens alone can not provide for themselves. Time and money are limited resources. If you truly want to improve the future for Texans, you should be focusing your time and our money to support and expand services such as SNAP, Medicaid/CHIP, and public schools that make sure children have full bellies and access to quality healthcare and education. They are the future, and they are depending on us. I urge you to drop discussion of HB 229 and all bills related to gender/sexuality. This is not an area where we need or want government input.

Ellen Raff
Self retired
Dallas, TX

Texas residents thrive on freedom and inclusion and individuality. Why put Texas behind the nation on a social issue that is outside bureaucrats' control? Worse, why put Texas behind the free world in individual rights? This frivolous legislation would put an unnecessary burden on the state. Vote NO on HB229

Damon Carbajal
GLSEN
Austin, TX

My name is Damon Carbajal, and I'm testifying on behalf of GLSEN - a national organization that works to build safer and more inclusive learning environment for all students, including LGBTQ+ youth. GLSEN programming and resources reach more than 13,000 Texans.

GLSEN strongly opposes HB 229, a bill that would adopt narrow and exclusionary definitions of sex that fail to account for the diversity of the Texas population. Transgender, nonbinary, intersex, and gender-expansive people live throughout this state, but this bill would intensify disparities faced by these communities by tying the hands of state and local agencies working to understand and respond to their concerns.

For example, this bill would undermine efforts to keep students safe from harassment and assault in schools. For decades, GLSEN has tracked the impact of hostile school environments on LGBTQ+ youth. When marginalized students do not feel safe at school, it impacts their academic performance, attendance, their sense of belonging, and their overall mental health. Anti-LGBTQ+ harassment has a spillover effect on the broader student population, as hostile school climates create stressors for bystanders who witness violence, and some cisgender students have been subjected to transphobic harassment due to assumptions about their departure from certain sex stereotypes.

Federal data collections have recently added measures to better understand school climate challenges faced by gender-expansive students - including nonbinary students. In the absence of federal data, past GLSEN surveys have found that, in Texas, 56% of LGBTQ+ students report that they have been verbally harassed based on their gender identity, with 32% of LGBTQ+ youth reporting physical harassment or assault based on their gender identity.

Instead of responding to these staggeringly high rates of disruptive conduct in schools, this bill would make matters worse by depriving school leaders of data needed to assess and implement appropriate interventions. Hiding the truth about gender-expansive people in Texas does not erase them, but simply imposes barriers to ensuring that schools can respond to an increasingly diverse student population.

We oppose these exclusionary definitions and inappropriate prohibitions on accurate data collection, and we urge the committee to reject this bill. Thank you.

Jeannette Jacoby
Self
Cameron, TX

Texas House Bill 229 is more than just a definition bill — it's a direct attack on transgender and nonbinary Texans.

This bill would legally define "sex" strictly as male or female based on reproductive anatomy, erasing the existence of trans and intersex people in state law. It mandates that all government data collection — from health records to public services — must categorize individuals only as "male" or "female," with no recognition of gender identity or lived experience .

HB 229 is a dangerous step toward institutionalized discrimination. It could:

- Erase trans and nonbinary identities from public records and services.
- Force misgendering in schools, prisons, shelters, and healthcare settings.
- Undermine anti-discrimination protections by redefining legal terms like "woman" and "man" based solely on biology.
- Set a precedent for further anti-LGBTQ+ legislation under the guise of "clarity."

This bill isn't about safety or fairness — it's about control and exclusion.

Karen Santhanam
Self
Cedar Park, TX

I oppose HB 229. This is a harmful bill and just scientifically wrong. Stop the culture wars and work on issues significant to Texans. Vote NO on this bill

Laureen Shigley
self
Georgerown, TX

pass!

Lisa Hill
Self
Austin, TX

This is a ridiculous bill that will not help anyone and will only harm upstanding productive citizens of this state.

Jose Orta
none
Taylor, TX

I oppose HB 229. Not all bodies strictly conform to typical male and female categories. It is time to reconceptualizing biological sex as a spectrum rather than a binary, as human bodies themselves do not consistently develop into two clearly delineated options, and can develop into many varieties beyond what is typically expected of males and females. HB 229 will only discriminate and target an already vulnerable minority.

Amy Moreland
Self
Austin, TX

I'd like to get on the record that I Oppose the following 4 bills in House State Affairs committee, being heard today:

HB 229 – Defines “biological sex” in harmful, binary terms.
Endangers trans, intersex, and nonbinary Texans and their ability to live and be recognized authentically.

HB 3990 – Bans Pride flags and other affirming symbols on public buildings.
Erases LGBTQIA+ inclusion and visibility in civic life.

HB 5510 – Escalates criminalization of abortion care and support.
Opens the door to lawsuits and criminal charges against providers and supporters.

HB 5082 – Blocks cities from reducing drug enforcement or allowing local votes on marijuana decriminalization.
Silences voters and threatens reform-minded communities with fines and lawsuits.

Beverly Gatlin
Self
Italy, TX

I support this Bill.

Ronnie Gatlin
Self
Italy, TX

I support this Bill.

Donna Collins
self
Fort Worth, TX

I am in total support of HC 229; It's rediculous that this is even questioned;

mary smith
self/ retired
arlington, TX

This bill needs to be heard and passed. Its sad that gender what is woman, etc., has to be discussed and a bill has to be written on this subject, but it seems that common sense has to be enabled and explained. Please pass this bill .

April Grimes-Wallace
Self-Self
FORT WORTH, TX

Texas HB 229, introduced by Conservative Representative Troxclair, seeks to define biological sex in state law and regulate single-sex spaces. Proponents claim it protects “women’s rights,” yet the bill appears anti-American, economically harmful, and constitutionally suspect.
Anti-American Values- HB 229 undermines American ideals of diversity and inclusivity. By codifying rigid definitions of sex, the bill risks alienating transgender and nonbinary individuals, denying them equal access to public spaces, and contradicting the freedom to live authentically without discrimination.
Economic Consequences- Discriminatory laws trigger economic backlash. North Carolina’s 2016 “bathroom bill” reportedly led to $3.76 billion in losses from boycotts and canceled events. Texas faces a similar risk if investors and talent, particularly from the LGBTQ+ community, are deterred by policies that stifle diversity and innovation.
Constitutional Concerns- The bill challenges the Equal Protection Clause by excluding transgender and nonbinary people and may infringe on First Amendment rights by restricting gender expression. Courts have held that laws targeting specific groups must serve a compelling state interest and be narrowly tailored—a standard HB 229’s broad language likely fails to meet.
Government’s Role in Defining Language- By attempting to codify definitions of “man,” “woman,” and “biological sex,” HB 229 overreaches. Language is fluid and subject to societal evolution. Imposing fixed definitions restricts personal identity and stifles cultural progress, raising questions about the proper scope of government in controlling core aspects of individual expression.
Republican Value Discrepancies- Texas Republicans often emphasize individual freedom, limited government, and economic growth. Yet HB 229 enforces strict definitions that expand governmental control and may deter investment. This contradiction reveals a gap between the values Republicans claim to uphold and the realities of such legislation.The philosophy of limited government intervention is a pillar of Republican ideology. However, by dictating the language used to determine access to public spaces and imposing strict definitions of identity, HB 229 represents a clear expansion of governmental power. This overreach is inconsistent with calls for reduced government.
Some will try to claim the bill protects women, but data show most crimes against women are committed by cisgender males. Studies indicate as many as 90% of sexual assaults are perpetrated by cisgender men, with most violence occurring in private settings. HB 229 diverts attention from real threats like intimate partner violence and instead fuels unnecessary fears about transgender individuals.
In sum, Texas HB 229 risks undermining American values, economic progress, and constitutional rights by imposing narrow, fixed definitions on personal identity—contradicting the inclusive, limited-government ideals it purports to protect.

Carol Ortiz
Self
Montgomery, TX

The thinking behind a binary definition is outdated and misleading. “The research and medical community now sees sex as more complex than male and female, and gender as a spectrum that includes transgender people and those who identify as neither male nor female.” Nature

LAURA SMITH
self retired teacher
THE WOODLANDS, TX

Please vote NO to HB229. Transgender people hurt no one and only want to lead their lives in peace, with protections that all of us as citizens expect. The bill is harmful and demeaning.

Laura Gallier
Self - retired CPA
Houston, TX

I oppose this bill and I'm asking you to as well. There are about 95,000 trans adults in Texas. There are too many bills in this legislation trying to redefine them. Enough already. Let's all be as sure about our identity as trans folks are and leave them alone. Trans people are not a threat in any way.

Janine Chapa
Self
Georgetown, TX

Please pass this bill out of committee in addition place on the calendar for a vote. It’s a shame that we have to define these terms that have been a part of our history since God created humanity. Vote yes on this bill! We must stop the madness and confusion for our children’s sake.

Karen Santhanam
Self
Cedar Park, TX

I oppose Hb 229. This is harmful to so many people and very unnecessary. People create their own families and don’t need your narrow outdated limits. No one hb 229

Cynthia Grubb
self/self
Dallas, TX

I STRONGLY SUPPORT this bill. I cannot believe that this needs to be clarified. We cannot allow the Left to change the definitions!

Michael Belsick
Fredericksburg Tea Party
Fredericksburg, TX

For HB 229. Good bill

Kevin Chen
Self
Austin, TX

I am strongly opposed to this bill on the basis that it denies the existence of non-binary and transgender people who are very much here and wonderful people. I am friends with many non-binary and trans people, and they're people just like the rest of us. We should not deny them their existence or their identities.

Hedrich Michaelsen
self-retired
Austin, TX

I am against this bill. I am making this case as a cisgender woman who has lived on this planet for over 68 years. I have known, loved and respected several people who are members of the LGBTQ community, including transgender and non-binary individuals. I have never felt threatened by a transgender woman using a public restroom. As other people outside of the LGBTQ community struggle to understand the place of transgender and non-binary people in society, my thoughts are that it is important to understand that these individuals should have the same basic rights as all people have: to be their authentic selves, to go to the bathroom that fits their identity, to play sports, to love who they want to love, to marry and raise families—all while having their privacy and dignity respected and being able to update their government-issued documents to fit their gender identity. This bill is attempting to regulate gender identity in the most narrow way. It completely overlooks the existence of intersex individuals, for example. Intersex individuals from birth present biological characteristics of both males and females. This bill would be harmful to those individuals. And it would do harm to transgender and non-binary individuals overall by effectively refusing to acknowledge their right to exist and to force them into situations that could be dangerous to them: e.g., putting a transgender woman into a male prison, forcing a transgender woman to use a restroom for men, etc. This type of law will not protect women from men that seek to do them harm. It will not protect female athletes from cheating. It will only do harm to people who are just trying to live their lives without having to worry about the government regulating their genitalia.

Susan Doyle
Self - Retired Attorney
Liberty Hill, TX

Please support this bill! Our culture has been severely damaged by the toxic intentional vagueness on these simple terms. Just use common sense.

Bette Chapman, Mrs.
Self
Lake Worth, TX

Please support this bill.

Brian Russell
Self, attorney
Austin, TX

I strongly support this common sense definition of terms related to biological sex. Please support to create certainty and uniformity in our laws.

Susan Cherry
Self
Lubbock, TX

I support HB 229.

Dawn Guerriero
self
Dallas, TX

It's an embarrassment we need to have a bill that defines 'man' and 'woman' but here we are- Vote yes to put a final stamp on this conversation.

Katherine Fletcher
Self / Manager / TXUUJM
Houston, TX

I and writing with my faith community and I oppose this bill. It is unscientific and harms an already marginalized group. It is not what Texans stand for. We are strong and caring.

Franklin Strong
Self
Austin, TX

I am writing in strong opposition to HB229, which is unnecessary and will lead to discrimination against trans and intersex individuals. The bill purports to protect women's spaces and sports, but it does nothing of the sort. Instead it attacks a vulnerable population--trans people--while ignoring the complex science of sex and gender and writing intersex people out of existence. Texans shouldn't be discriminatory or afraid of difference. Please vote against this bill.

John Martone
self
Houston, TX

I support HB 5510, the Woman and Child Protection Act. Texas must protect mothers and children from the danger of abortion pills ordered online. These drugs are harming vulnerable women and preborn babies, and it’s time to hold the abortion industry accountable.

Barbara Martone
self
Houston, TX

I support HB 5510, the Woman and Child Protection Act. Texas must protect mothers and children from the danger of abortion pills ordered online. These drugs are harming vulnerable women and preborn babies, and it’s time to hold the abortion industry accountable.

Frank Martone
self
Houston, TX

I support HB 5510, the Woman and Child Protection Act. Texas must protect mothers and children from the danger of abortion pills ordered online. These drugs are harming vulnerable women and preborn babies, and it’s time to hold the abortion industry accountable.

Meg Sheehy
Self-musician
Buda, TX

This an attack on Transgender Texans. Trans people exist and deserve to live without fear here in our state. You have no business attempting to define biological sex especially with a definition that ignores scientific standards. Trans Texans are Texans! I strongly oppose this bill.

Susan Bell
self
Kerrville, TX

Troxclair should spend time actually doing things that matter. People know what men and woman are and if they don't they are lost. I DO NOT SUPPORT HB229

Tracy Shannon
self
Kingwood, TX

I support HB229. Sex cannot be changed, and the government has an interest in the accurate recording and distribution of data. This is one of many essential steps necessary to end the falsification of sex that is so harmful to the personal liberties of Texans, especially women.

Sylvia Campbell
self
The Woodlands, TX

To the State Affairs Committee,
Efforts to categorize people as "male" or "female" (and nothing else) are not consistent with good science. The human body is much more complicated than that. This bill tries to force people into categories, even when they don't fit. This is very harmful. HB 229, and other anti-trans bills force trans and other LGBTQ people to be misgendered in order to participate in day-to-day life — which increases the risk that they face violence and harassment, or are simply excluded from basic services. I believe Texas can do better than this. I urge you to vote NO on HB 229.
Respectfully,
Sylvia Campbell

Lisa Healy
Self
Midlothian, TX

I support this bill. Please vote yes. Thank you for your consideration.

Michele Wallace, Mrs.
Self
Waxahachie, TX

Very much in favor of this bill.

Bridget Brame
self
Georgetown, TX

My family and friends SUPPORT this bill. It's our understanding this bill defines boy, father, female, woman, girl, male, man, and mother. It adds that “sex means an individual’s biological sex, either male or female”.

Andrea Yang
Self
Spring, TX

An unnecessary and discriminatory bill that seeks to persecute citizens on the basis of gender identity.

Lou Ann Montana
Self
SPring, TX

I believe HB 229 is unnecessary and offensive. Although I do not disagree with the findings in general, the proposed binary definitions established by HB 229 are shortsighted, counterproductive and not representative of human reality.

I urge you to vote NO on HB 229.

Linda Ricks
Self
Midlothian, TX

Dear Members,

I strongly support this bill. Please vote it out of committee.

Thank you,
Linda Ricks

Monica Perry
Self
Round Rock, TX

I oppose this! Everyone has the right to PRIVACY!

Perla Hopkins
Self/Mother/Educator/USAF Veteran
Leander, TX

Dear State Affairs Committee,
I strongly support HB 229. Thank you for considering passing HB 229 out of committee, Texas must protect our women and girls.
Thank you,
Perla Hopkins

Rae Portalatin
Self- Community Health Worker
Austin, TX

This bill can only HARM women. This bill is a disgusting overreach of government power. If the government HAS to legislate specific criteria for what gender and sex look like, perhaps it is not as fixed and true as the authors and coauthors of this bill believe. What a disgusting waste of time and resources from our elected officials. Anyone who supports this bill should be absolutely ashamed and embarrassed. ONE DAY WE WILL HAVE ALL ALWAYS BEEN AGAINST THIS.

Amy Frazier
Self
Austin, TX

Against

Amy Hamilton, Ph.D.
self--Research Associate and Adjunct Professor
Elgin, TX

I’m a research associate at UT-Austin and an adjunct professor with the Catholic Women’s and Gender Studies program at the University of St. Thomas in Houston. For the last six years, I've studied the issues surrounding sex and gender identity, contributing to assessments of the research for official reports and legal documents. I am speaking in my personal capacity in favor of HB 229.

HB 229 seeks to protect women and girls by recognizing the material, objective reality of the human species in law. While it has become fashionable to claim there is a spectrum of biological sex or that a sexed binary does not exist, the binary is unquestionable in terms of human reproduction. There are only two types of gametes, egg and sperm, and one of each are required for human life to be conceived. Females produce the large, immobile gametes, and males produce the smaller, mobile gametes. That mishaps in fertilization or disorders of sexual development, commonly called “intersex” cases, occur in approximately one in 5,000 births does not change the sexually dimorphic reality of human bodies, divided into males and females.

Denying the objective material reality of the body or replacing biological sex with gender identity has many harmful ramifications on society but especially on women and girls. Out of these many, I will choose three that HB 229 seeks to prevent:
1. Corruption of public data and statistics, including census and medical data. For instance, crime statistics are inaccurately recorded and well-known sex-based patterns of offending become hidden or skewed.

2. Loss of women’s sex-segregated spaces. Women’s spaces become open to men who claim a female gender identity, even in the most vulnerable settings such as rape crisis centers, domestic abuse shelters, and prisons.

3. Women’s sports becoming open to males. This puts women at risk for serious injury in contact sports and extreme disadvantage in all others. The difference in male and female bodies and their performance capacities is the very reason men’s and women’s sports divisions exist. The harm to women in sports is compounded by the loss mentioned in point 2: locker rooms, changing facilities, and showers become open to men, thereby creating a double harm by depriving women of these sex-segregated spaces.

I am grateful to Rep. Troxclair for authoring this bill and thank the House Members for their consideration. Please protect Texas women and girls by voting YES.

See: Kim, K.S. & Kim, J. (2012). “Disorders of Sex Development,” Korean Journal of Urology, No. 53(1), pp. 1–8; U. Thyen et al. (2006). “Epidemiology and Initial Management of Ambiguous Genitalia at Birth in Germany,” Hormone Research in Pediatrics, No. 66, pp. 195–203. Comments mainly quoted from: Hamilton, A. 2024. “A House Divided Against Itself: Gender Identity vs. Human Flourishing.” In: Ostojski, P. & Regnerus, M. eds.Contemporary problems of protection of marriage and identity of the person in light of American...

Rachel Allen
Self, Licensed Professional Counselor
Bedford, TX

This bill would reduce Texan's privacy of their personal health information and increase sex segregation and discrimination. In addition to harming people who do not fit into either "male" or "female" strict categories to due biological differences on the physical, genital, and chromosonal level, this bill increases fear for all citizens who are strictly biologically male or female in public spaces. If a woman naturally has a deep voice and more body hair, and is NOT transgender, this harms her because it incerases the fear that she will be perceived as transgender when she actually is not. The same is true for biological men who perhaps are skinner, shorter, and have softer features - they fear being perceived as transgender and facing related consequences when in fact they are cisgender. This bill only proposes to harm all Texans and increase confusion and paranoia about going into public spaces. Laws already exist if people harm others in public spaces, and transgender people (and all Texas citizens) are already susceptible to these laws. This bill is wholly unnecessary. There is no need for the government to collect private information on the basis of sex more than they already do.

Audrey Webb
Self
Lockney, TX

OPPOSE this bill! Biological sex should be defined by science! This bill ignores science and erases documentation for people who are infertile or intersex, as well as transpeople. The limiting the definition of sex to xx or xy and removing the ability to track those statistics and demographics will result in worse outcomes for transpeople, women with PCOS (like me), and intersex people (people born genetically with more chromosomes). Life is hard enough with these differences, don't erase us too.

Cynthia Daniels
Self
Mansfield, TX

I strongly oppose HB 229. This bill seeks to mandate a rigid, binary definition of sex in Texas law, reducing the rich diversity of human experience to an oversimplified and exclusionary framework.
HB 229 does more than just define terms, it erases people. By forcing all governmental entities to classify Texans strictly as male or female, the bill invalidates the identities of nonbinary, intersex, and transgender individuals who already face discrimination and barriers to public services.
Government should serve and reflect all Texans, not impose outdated definitions that marginalize entire communities. Our laws should be rooted in inclusion, science, and compassion, not political ideology.
HB 229 will have real and harmful consequences! It could deny accurate representation in public health and education data. It may restrict access to affirming services.
It sends a message to LGBTQ+ Texans, especially youth, that they are not seen or respected. Please stand up for the dignity, privacy, and humanity of all your constituents. Vote NO on HB 229.

Sarah Berel-Harrop
self/seminarian
Farmers Branch, TX

This is NOT the people's business. It is completely unnecessary, a waste of time, and could have far-reaching impacts on people who are not the stated target of this campaign. For example, "parent" is not defined in the general code. So adoptive parents are not actually the mothers or fathers to their children? Are women who don't produce ova actually men? And these definitions completely ignore the reality of intersex people.

More troubling than the policy harm is that this bill is part of a very public campaign to stoke fear in the hearts of Texans about transgender people, who are a small and vulnerable part of our population. Transgender people are our neighbors, friends, church members, and valuable community members who are just trying to live their lives. Legislation like this and the publicity that surrounds it endangers them by making people afraid. Dehumanization is a long-understood predecessor to actual physical violence.

My mother was a member of a bridge club for almost 50 years. Bathroom bans were in the news and the other women in her group were speaking of trans people calling them "monsters". Her friends bought the PR campaign that there was something wrong and dangerous about human beings who are different than them to the point of denying their humanity. My mother felt that those denying other people's humanity are the ones acting like monsters and left the group. This is the actual effect of legislation that publicly calls out trans people. It's divisive and harmful.

Please do not advance HB229.

Tom Glass
Self, Retired
McDade, TX

I support HB 229.

Bridget Brame
self
Georgetown, TX

My family and friends STRONGLY SUPPORT this bill. This bill will make the definition of “woman” and “man” clear in state law and grant legal protection to defend women’s single-sex spaces and opportunities.

Hope Turner
self - design system program manager
Austin, TX

This is government overreach. The government is not trust-worthy with our personal data, as illustrated by Musk and DOGE infiltrating databases.

Susan Anderson
self
Benbrook, TX

I strongly oppose HB 229, a discriminatory bill that puts transgender, nonbinary, and intersex Texans at risk. By defining “biological sex” as fixed, binary, and based solely on reproductive capacity, this bill ignores medical and scientific understanding of gender and erases the lived realities of many people. HB 229 would block trans individuals from updating government documents to reflect their chosen gender identity, exposing them to discrimination and harm. It would also strip intersex and nonbinary Texans of legal recognition, denying them the dignity and rights they deserve. This bill does not reflect Texas values of fairness, respect, and individual freedom. Transgender, nonbininary, and intersex Texans are not harming anybody, but this bill does harm them. Hence, I oppose it and I urge you to do so as well.

Pat Fry
Self
Round Mountain, TX

With the insanity of biological sex in our modern days, it would be a favorable thing to solidify the definition of male and female in State statute. Please SUPPORT HB229

Paige Schilt
Self, psychotherapist
Austin, TX

Please do not vote this bill out of committee. It is harmful and unscientific, and it will negatively impact the safety of intersex, nonbinary, and transgender Texans.

Sherry Eller
Self
Temple, TX

Please support HB229 and vote qiivkly out of committee for a full House vote.

Laura Gallier
Self retired cpa
Houston, TX

Please oppose this bill. Enough with the anti - trans legislation. There are only 95,000 trans adults in Texas but to see how many bills are introduced to deny their existence, you would think there were many more. Please do not think you're protecting women by denying the existence of trans people; nobody needs to prove their sex/gender.

Pamela Seastrunk
Self / Disabled / Retired
Rockwall, TX

Two sexes only . No trans in women sports at all. Form their own leagues paid for by themselves or volunteers. Not taxpayers!!

Eva Bookout, Mrs
Self
Houston, TX

I support HB 5510, the Woman and Child Protection Act. Texas must protect mothers and children from the danger of abortion pills ordered online. These drugs are harming vulnerable women and preborn babies, and it's time to hold the abortion industry accountable."

Karen Santhanam
Self
Cedar Park, TX

I oppose HB 229. This is factually inaccurate and deeply flawed. Why the hate and discrimination? This is not fact. It's opinion and should not become law in Texas

Melody Allen
self - Logistics Manager
Waxahachie, TX

I am submitting this testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB 229, the Women's Bill of Rights, authored by Representative Ellen Troxclair. This legislation is a vital step in ensuring clarity in state law regarding biological sex and protecting women's rights in single-sex spaces and opportunities.
Texas stands as one state, under God, one and indivisible, rooted in a heritage of faith and a commitment to truth and justice. As a state that recognizes God's sovereignty, it is only fitting that our laws reflect His divine design for men and women as revealed in His Word. Genesis 1:27 states, "So God created mankind in His own image, in the image of God He created them; male and female He created them." This foundational truth affirms the significance of biological distinctions, ensuring that policies governing sports, restrooms, locker rooms, domestic abuse shelters, and prisons uphold God's order.
HB 229 provides legal clarity that protects the integrity of women's spaces and ensures fairness, safety, and privacy for women and girls. Proverbs 31:25 declares, "She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come." Women have been endowed by God with unique strengths and immeasurable worth, and it is the responsibility of our society to honor and safeguard those rights. Without clear legal definitions, policies that were meant to protect women can become ambiguous, leading to consequences that undermine God's design and the very rights our laws should uphold.
This bill is not about exclusion—it is about preserving fairness and protecting women's rights. It ensures that women's sports remain competitive and equitable, that survivors of domestic violence have safe spaces, and that privacy in intimate settings is respected. As Esther 4:14 reminds us, "And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?" Texas has an opportunity, in this moment, to stand boldly for truth and justice, ensuring that our laws reflect both biological reality and the divine wisdom found in Scripture.
I urge the committee to support HB 229 and uphold God's design for men and women, advancing legislation that protects the rights and safety of women and girls across Texas.
Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sherri Duchin
Self
The Woodlands, TX

Please vote NO on HB 229. It is unnecessary for Texas to do this for strictly political reasons. Thank you.

PATRICIA BARRETT
SELF
Houston, TX

Sex is biological and genetic (FACTUAL). Individual choices to reflect desires to live as a different gender do not change those facts. The law should only address facts, not fluctuating preferences. Pass this bill!

Linda Evans, Ms
Self / retired
Conroe, TX

Vote No on HB 229!
The thinking behind a binary definition is outdated and misleading. Research and medical community now sees sex as more complex than male and female, and gender as a spectrum that includes transgender people and those who identify as neither male nor female.

Texas is home to the second largest population of LGBTQIA+ people in the country, yet across the state, they lack basic protections. There are 127 anti-trans bills before the Texas legislature this year. Why the outrageous focus on cruelty and discrimination on an already marginalized segment of our society? Why the need for such an invasion of privacy?
Vote No HB 229.

Andrea Morehead
self
Amarillo, Texas, TX

I strongly support only Male or Female and limited information that others collect to try to use information to change someone.