

February 13, 2023; 1:30 pm
House Committee on Education
Rep. Adam Thomas, Chair

Nina Fricke
Resident, parent

HB2238 – Creating the "fairness in women's sports" act to require that female student athletic teams only include members who are biologically female.

Opponent, Written Only

Chair Thomas and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide Opponent testimony on HB2238.

As a person who attends an open, affirming church I have come to know and appreciate many LGBTQ people. I see the stress that is caused by homophobic fear of "others".

Approximately 10 percent of people do not view themselves as male or female. A look back in history reveals that this has always been the case. Due to unfounded fears leading to persecution, LGBTQ people have been unable to be who they really are until recently. We all have experience with being told "you can't be or do that". It is a denial of our basic personality.

My interactions with LGBTQ friends have shown them to be empathetic, sensitive to what matters to others and open to ideas. I have never felt threatened or in danger in their presence. I have also seen that they are wonderful parents to their children I would invite you to just listen to their story. I'm sure you can find someone in your family who is experiencing the hatred this bill proposes.

This fear of someone who is different from you causes unnecessary stress and anxiety to a significant number of people in Kansas. Kansas wants to welcome new business and residents to Kansas. A hostile attitude such as expressed in this bill will certainly discourage companies that want a good place for their employees to live.

I feel Kansas should be a place where people can live out their true self without persecution or restrictions imposed by the legislature.

Thank you for considering my testimony