

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

Deena Helm
Former Kansas resident

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.

My name is Deena Helm and I am a former Kansas resident. I oppose this bill. As a cisgender woman, I do not feel like trans women in sports affect me or take away my ability to play or compete. The argument of "biological advantages" is weak at best, given how many professional cisgender athletes have biological advantages already and are not prohibited from playing. Michael Phelps, for example, is a cisgender man with a larger than normal capacity in his lungs, and yet he is not barred from competing.

When we begin to put quantifiers on what constitutes a man or woman, we begin to see just how fluid this can be. Science itself has no definition, because the biological aspect of chromosomes are variable as well.

See above

I oppose this bill because it doesn't truly help anyone. Thank you for considering my testimony.