

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

Megan Langford
Parent and 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 Megan Langford. I am a parent of two children in the Shawnee Mission School District. I believe that all kids in Kansas, just like my kids, deserve to not only participate, but thrive, in their communities. I am opposed to this bill because it singles out a group of kids as different and doesn't allow them to play with their friends.

Trans children deserve every opportunity that their cisgender peers are afforded. Trans kids deserve to experience everything that playing sports has to offer, from building self-esteem to making friends to simply having fun. Let's be clear: trans girls are girls. Allowing trans girls to compete in girls' sports harms no one, but banning them leads to horrible and harmful gender policing that obviously harms cis girls as well.

The vast majority of student athletes are not going to be competing at elite levels. They just want to play with their friends. The media like to find and focus on the rare instance of a trans athlete succeeding on a national scale, rather than the scores of kids who couldn't care less whether their teammates are transgender.

Our children deserve better than to be bullied by this discriminatory bill. Let trans girls play girls' sports, and make sure all children are able to play, learn, and grow with their peers. Please oppose HB2238.