

Proponent Testimony HB61 To our Representatives, thank you.

I agree with Representative Jena Powell and Representative Reggie Stoltzfus that transgender girls have an unfair physical advantage over biological girls when it comes to sports. I thank them for House Bill 61 and am a proponent.

Most would agree that there are physical differences between biological men and women. The internal differences really become manifest in sports. Biological males have more muscle mass, greater lung capacity, and other physical differences that have (rightly) been taken into consideration to ensure that women can have their rightful place in sports. This is one main reason why there are male and female categories; to level the playing field.

For this testimony, a level playing field is my focus because sports are competitive, whether on a team or as an individual. Some may be playing sports for the social aspect, but the overwhelming majority are in a sport to win, to achieve, to set records, not just to be with friends.

It is true that today some physical changes can occur through surgeries and hormones. But to my knowledge bone structure and stature cannot be changed, muscle mass cannot be changed, and neither can lung capacity be changed. Each of these physical differences will impact the outcome of a win or loss in a sport.

Here is an example of how having biological male and female categories in a race matters. A cycling race (Unbound Gravel 200) that recently took place in June in Kansas had male and female categories. First place results in each category:

Men's Winning Time - 10:17:24 20.04 mph

Women's Winning Time - 12:06:49 17.02 mph

There were 604 finishers. The winning woman's place was 31st overall. The prize was notoriety. Had one of the 29 men with winning times better than the winning woman self identified as a woman and raced as a woman, then the winning woman would not have her rightful place as the first place winner in the women's category.

For this race, notoriety, not money or prizes, was the only thing at stake. Self pride is always an issue; accomplishing goals is an issue as well.

Strava is a cycling app that tracks performance. Strava awards titles on their app such as king or queen of the mountain and local legends. A cyclist simply gets notoriety (albeit temporarily) for his or her accomplishments.

Our daughter and my husband are avid cyclists. While neither my daughter nor my husband cycles competitively, I assure you that after every ride they check Strava. And they like very much when they are king or queen of the mountain. They also like being the "local legend" of a

segment. They are in cycling for the health of it, the fun of it, and the pleasure cycling brings, but they also are in it for goals and self achievements.

Our daughter knows that physically she cannot compete or out-cycle the average male cyclist. Her stature alone puts her at a disadvantage. The moment a biological male identifies as female, her cycling accomplishments will be disadvantaged.

Most who choose a sport are competitive and desire to win; others might be in sports for the social aspect. This bill is not an attempt to destroy the social aspect of transgender girls being friends with biological girls. The purpose of this bill is to present fair competitive results for biological girls.

I want to consider transgender women at this point. I want to consider their feelings and desires. But there is a practical problem with this issue of their playing a sport with biological women. One that turns out to be a more than likely loss for biological women and a more than likely win for transgender women. Allowing a transgender woman to compete with a biological woman is physically unfair to the biological women. HB 61 is needed because this type of competition is in place now and it is negatively and unfairly impacting competitions, results, aspirations, goals, and scholarships. Canceling biological women is not the right solution. Please pass HB 61 to save women's sports. Thank you.

Pamela J. Clegg
3614 Makassar Drive
Westerville, OH 43081