

Krista Towner-Larsen

Thank you for considering my concerns raised in opposition to House Bill 151 and Senate Bill 132, the Save Women's Sports Act. This dangerous legislation targets an already vulnerable group of Ohio youth and denies them the often life saving opportunity to participate in sports.

Introducing a ban that stops transgender youth from participating in sports would do so much harm. From an early age, the state of Ohio, adults, teachers & role models would essentially be teaching trans kids that it is not ok to be who they are, that they should be ashamed, that they should hide. As a native Ohioan, I would hope that our state would be doing everything in its power to do exactly the opposite: to lift trans kids up, to make them feel seen, to make them feel valued, included, and to let them know that it's OK to be who they are. We should be working to build a more inclusive world and a more inclusive Ohio, not a bigoted one. Not only would this ban cause potentially irreparable harm to trans youth, but it would bring shame to Ohio. We need to do better. We need to be better.

I urge you to oppose HB151 and SB132 and protect our state's athletes.