

Jewel Yarger

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.

I grew up playing sports in and outside of school. In school, we played co-ed sports for gym class, never excluding anyone. After school I kept book for the boys basketball team and girls volleyball team. I was the only female on the bus when the boys team had away games. They were respectful and my gender and sex did not ban me from participating in practices with them to learn how the game was played to keep book. The point I am trying to get at is that people should be able enjoy the sport they are playing. No one is paying attention to if someone was originally assigned sex female or male. Everyone just wants to play together ESPECIALLY children. Allow children to have these moments and memories. If a female born girl can play with the guys on a guys basketball team then why can't a female born transgender boy play? They should have that right. It starts small by taking away things like sports. And then it escalates to taking other things away like Healthcare and other basic human rights. Let these kids BE KIDS. Don't exile them. Let them feel included.

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