

Ashley Sindelar

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 strongly feel as though transgender youth should be permitted to play in sports. It is legal for transgender athletes to participate in the Olympics, a much more competitive domain than children's sports. I feel that transgender youth should have the opportunity to participate in sports. I grew up playing soccer and running track. While I was a mediocre athlete, sports have been integral to developing who I am as a person. I've learned teamwork, work ethic, and how to stay healthy. I think everyone, including transgender youth, should have access to these opportunities. I also think it's grossly unfair to force children to prove their gender! Will you ask children to disrobe to prove they have the genitalia that match how they identify? Children should be allowed to be children and that includes playing sports. Transgender youth are children when it comes down to it and this policy is grossly discriminatory.

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