

Olivia Sormaz

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 am a member of Cleveland Heights and a proud alumni of Cleveland Hts High School who participated in sports. Through sports I made connections and friends that helped me through my childhood and early life. There was recently a transgender athlete ban introduced to Ohio to ban trans youth from participating in school sports. This is detrimental to the transgender community. Denying a child to participate in a core part of childhood can have lasting effects on mental health, social skills, life skills, and identity. There should be no reason to ban a child--a human their right to participate in sports. Transgender rights are human rights, Ohio Republicans are attempting to strip humans of fundamental rights and invalidate a beautiful community of their existence.

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