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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 will testify assuming that your hearts have been hardened by God. You may have introduced or sponsored this bill based on a firm sense of morality. Whether out of a compassion for athletes born female who chose to grow up as women, or out of a fear of a distant unknown who seeks to shake up and destroy all conventional forms of thought and decency, I believe whatever intention you have in pursuing this bill's passage is entirely false and misunderstood. Again, I am testifying assuming you have your hearts hardened and closed off to transgender athletes, perhaps transgender people in general. so I will explain my reasoning of trans inclusion in sports based on excerpts from a source of morality many people in this state rely upon: The Bible. The source for what I assume is the majority faith that you all believe in: Christianity.

Let it be established that transgender athletes and transgender people are not an abomination, freak of nature, perverse, contrary to nature, or anything to be reasonable afraid of. Psalms 139:13-16 : "For you created my most inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all my days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be." Transgender people do not misguide themselves or see themselves astray from God, for it would be God that destined them to be anything aside from what society assigned them to be, and God arranged so that way they can discover their identity for themselves. These people may recognize their identity, their true selves, when they are four. Some when they are seven, ten, fourteen, twenty, thirty, sixty! For me, it was when I was eighteen that I began to set out on this journey of self-discovery, and being that I am sure of myself as not identifying as what I was assigned at birth that I believe divine force put me through this position of self-discovery. It is the same way for transgender people, especially these children and young adults, especially these children and young adults who compete in sports for their well-being and others, who will be targeted as a result of this bill's passing.

Therefore, as these people, including mentioned athletes, have been formed and predestined by God to discover their own benefits and joys, whether they be identity or sport; so too should we love them as much as we do everyone else, as God has predestined them to discover their and our own benefits and joys. Mark 12:30-31 "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul and all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these." If we would want for our children and young adults, including sons and daughters, to participate in the fun of sport; so too should we want transgender children and young adults to participate in sport as our own children. As Jesus is God, this commandment is an issue from God's own mouth.

If there's still any stone and steeled hearts who still wish to enact this bill, let it be known that to deny these children and young adults, who are trans, the freedom of participation according to their gender identity, is impossible to justify. As stated earlier, they are as deserving of love and compassion as our own. They are good, well-being members of our communities much like ourselves who are deserving of inclusion as our own kin. 1 Corinthians 12:12-13 "Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body--whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free--and we were all given the one Spirit to drink." To deny equally deserving members of our communities of love as our own the liberty of participating in sport consistent with their gender identity; would be the equivalent of you lawmakers and representatives of taking a machete and slicing both of your arms off, so that your perfectly functional arms, as part of a well functioning body, may never again type up bills and sign papers and raise hands and push buttons to vote and discuss laws. There is no just and good reason to do it, it is painful, it inflicts unnecessary cruelty, and hurts everyone involved. May it also be reminded that as we are Christ we must not set our hearts in stone to one another and deny ourselves and our communities and these transgender children and young adults these liberties in sports and other liberties enjoyed by the rest of the community is ultimately pointless, futile and a waste of time. Romans 8:38-39 "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." To which we are all made one in Jesus Christ and to deny any part of us, the body made one in Christ, liberties such as participation in sports consistent with gender identity; denying such would be denying God's will.

Must you still have your heart still set in stone of denying these transgender children and young adults the liberty of participating in sport consistent with gender identity, and in broader terms liberties enjoyed by the rest of the population, due to fears of these "unknown peoples" sexually assaulting your children and young adults in the locker rooms and causing them and you various other fears; I reveal to you that if you had such a stalwart stance towards actual cases of sexual assault and various other fears, that the women that you claim to protect wouldn't be running up to you to plead for your protection. Every single one of them would be comfortable running at night. Every single one of them wouldn't set fake Facetime alerts with their friends when they go out alone as a ward to cast against any assaulter who would prey on a seemingly vulnerable and alone woman to rape. Every single one of them would be happy to get shitface drunk and enjoy themselves--and the clothing they wear to the party--without fears of anyone taking advantage of them while under the influence. Every single one of them wouldn't have to attach a mace spray to their keychain or D-Ring to spritz and spray at any dickhead that gropes or grabs them on campus, in school, in their car, on the bus, and in their home. Every single one of them wouldn't fret and worry and be anxious about all the stories that happen in Ohio and this country, that fill all news feeds and words of mouth and social media, and obsess over rape prevention, self-defense, phone hacks, and awareness spreading to the degree they are now and have been since time immemorial. Every single member of your congregations wouldn't have to feel pressure or fear over those close to them, whether it be the priest or the baseball coach or the wrestling coach or your siblings who are aunts and uncles to

your children. You would have nipped Richard Strauss in the bud. You would have nipped Jim Jordan in the bud. You would have nipped every rapist and pedophile and uprooted them from your family and friend trees before you even stepped foot in this legislature, had you been as zealous and passionate against sexual assault and other fears as you claim to believe and use as justification to pass this bill, to deny our own transgender community members, deserving of as much love and compassion as our own, the liberty to participate in sports consistent with their gender identity--a liberty, might I add, enjoyed by every child and young adult you know should you not know any transgender child and young adult.

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