

Michael Fisher

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.

During my time living in Ohio, I transitioned to male by taking hormones and having chest reconstruction surgery. After a certain amount of time on testosterone, I decided to switch to playing the boys team of my preferred sport. I was incredibly nervous about this decision but ultimately it was the right choice. I gained valuable friendships and experiences, and I felt valued as a boy on the team. It meant so much to me to be accepted in this way. I can't imagine what it would have felt like to not be allowed to play a sport I loved so much with people of my same gender. The right to play a sport is a human right. Stripping that away and forcing trans children to play sports on teams where they will be constantly forced to be gendered incorrectly is unfair and inhumane. I urge you to consider the effect that a bill which singles out trans youth and bars them from participation in sport may do to them over time.

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