

Ohio Value Voters

Since 2007: Protecting Faith, Family, Freedom,
and the Sanctity of Life

Written Testimony of John Stover
President, Ohio Value Voters
Higher Education Committee
House Bill 183
October 18, 2023

Chairman Young, Vice Chair Manning, and members of the Committee: my name is John Stover and I am the President of Ohio Value Voters. Our organization promotes the values of Faith, Life, Families, and Religious Freedom. Since 2007, our purpose has been to educate, inform, and influence voters and elected officials in Ohio. We are independent of any political party, religious organization, or political action committee. Ohio Value Voters is a registered 501(c)(4) organization.

Ohio Value Voters commends Representatives Beth Lear and Adam Bird, along with all sponsors of House Bill 183. This bill will deter the potential crimes and assaults against biological girls and women in the State of Ohio.

In 2022, the Biden Administration through the Department of Education, proposed new rules to Title IX. Biden's rules are similar to Obama's in 2016, to place biological boys/men in the restrooms and locker rooms of girls and women (but far more over-reaching). Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost, in his comment letter on September 12, 2022, to the Biden Administration's proposed Title IX rules, stated:

"The Department failed adequately to consider the privacy and reliance interests of women and girls. The Proposed Rule does acknowledge that "members of the public" believe that permitting biological males to enter women's-only spaces will harm women's privacy. But rather than treating the public's perception as dispositive—and it is, because what privacy requires turns on the degree of privacy that Americans demand—the Department fails to give any weight to these interests. It instead dismisses them by asserting (without evidence) that schools "can and do" protect privacy interests while permitting biological males to enter women's-only spaces. It calls women's privacy interests "unsubstantiated." But that is objectively false. Just last year, in Loudon County, Virginia, a "pansexual" biological male assaulted a girl in a girl's restroom—a restroom he had access to because the school had a policy of resisting sex-based bathroom distinctions. And female athletes, like college swimmer Riley Gaines, experience "extreme discomfort" in sharing locker rooms with biological men.

The States are not suggesting that transgender individuals pose a heightened threat of sexual misconduct relative to non-transgender individuals. Instead, when it comes to sexual assault, the main problem with failing to separate the sexes is that it becomes easier for non-transgender sexual predators to infiltrate women's-only spaces where women are likely to be vulnerable. After all, if the women's locker room allows male entrants, would-be witnesses are not likely to think much of biological men entering the room. And that makes it easier for non-transgender sex criminals to enter areas where women are vulnerable. There is a reason that humans, for millennia, have seen fit to separate the sexes with respect to certain activities. It is passing arrogant to assume these barriers can be torn down without consequence."

See the entire letter of Ohio's Attorney General here: [LINK](#)

Creating an environment that permits biological males to enter the private spaces of females leads to crimes committed by sexual predators. These crimes have occurred throughout the country as reported by the Family Research Council. [EF16F27.pdf \(frc.org\)](#)

Mr. Chairman, in conclusion, it is respectfully requested that your committee pass this bill and send it to the House Floor for a vote.

Thank you.

John Stover, President
Ohio Value Voters