



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: ALISSA JOHNSON		PHONE NUMBER: 417-343-9262
REPRESENTING: CONCERNED WOMEN FOR AMERICA		TITLE: LEGISLATIVE LIAISON
ADDRESS: 3841 E LOMITA ST		
CITY: SPRINGFIELD		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65809
EMAIL: alissa73@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 6:26 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Girls are being robbed of their privacy, dignity, and birthright by individuals who are born genetically male who want or feel they should be female. This is a mental illness not a reality. Girls deserve to be protected from genetically born males in sports, dressing rooms, and bathrooms. Forcing them to share is unethical. Birth certificates show this information on the birth certificate and it is because it is based on biology and not psychology.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BECKY L BICKHAUS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: doniibecky@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 9:39 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

PLEASE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THIS LEGISLATION SO THAT ALL ATHLETES WHO PARTICIPATE IN THEIR BIOLOGICAL NAMED SPORT WILL HAVE FAIR AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: BEV EHLEN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-608-0168	
REPRESENTING: CONCERNED WOMEN FOR AMERICA OF MISSOURI		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 19335 PRIMROSE RIDGE			
CITY: WARRENTON		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63383
EMAIL: bevehlen@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 5:19 AM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

March 3, 2021 Chairman Grieshemier and Members of the committee, my name is Bev Ehlen, State Director of Concerned Women for America (CWA) of Missouri, testifying for Concerned Women for America LAC. I am here today on behalf of our Missouri members in support of HB 1298. As the nation's largest public policy women's organization in the nation and our state, CWA of Missouri heartily supports HJR53. Fair competition and equality in women's sports in Missouri are under threat. As the director of the state's largest public policy woman's organization, my remarks will address this issue's impact on girls' and women's sports. Female athletics are a pathway to development, opportunity, and success for girls and women in America. When male-born athletes are permitted in women's sports as transwomen, female-born athletes will lose hard-fought opportunities, which came about through the feminist movement in the implementation of Title IX. Allowing individuals who are born male to participate on a female athletic team directly violates Title IX and is discriminatory against girls. Title IX states in part: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance ..." Women had to fight for their right to compete. Men's opportunities were much greater in the arena of sports. Inherent distinctions between male and female range from chromosomal and hormonal differences to physiological differences. Physiological distinctions between the sexes matter in protecting equal opportunity and a fair playing field. Testosterone and innate biological differences give physical advantages to males that cannot be ignored. Males generally have greater density and strength in bones, tendons, and ligaments, larger hearts, greater lung capacity, and higher red blood cell count. I urge you to support a reasonable victory for the women's movement. The establishment of Title IX opened the doors of opportunity for women in sports. Women were given a level playing field. Please vote "do pass" on HJR53 Bev Ehlen State Director CWA of Missouri For Concerned Women for America LAC



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BRENT W HOERR		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: bhfi77@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 2:55 PM
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The resolution 53 is well written and I agree with its intended purpose to stop the confusion with gender and its effect on Interscholastic Athletic Contests and Sports.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CAROL PITZER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: allaboutjesus@centurytel.net	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 4:51 PM
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It's not fair for Boys to compete with the Girls in Athletic Contests. For that reason, I support HJR 53.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CAROLYN LILLEY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: carolynlilley@vanderlink.net	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 12:40 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Biological gender should not be in question when it comes to male and female sports. The genders are set by God in creation, and it is clear that there are serious consequences when the difference is not honored!



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CECILIA SANTA MARIA		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: ccsantamaria@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 1:12 PM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CLIF		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: cliftonehlen@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 11:10 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Inherent distinctions between males and females range from chromosomal and hormonal differences to physiological differences. Physiological distinctions between the sexes matter in protecting equal opportunity and a fair playing field. Testosterone and innate biological differences give physical advantages to males that cannot be ignored. Men generally have greater density and strength in bones, tendons, and ligaments, larger hearts, greater lung capacity, and higher red blood cell count.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DONALD A BICKHAUS II		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: doniibecky@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 9:36 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GARY S. URICH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: gkurich@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 9:46 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

There are only two sexes Male and Female! It applies to birth and all of life. Human confusion, lies, hormones, and surgery does not change the Truth revealed in our DNA! Dr. Gary S. Urich, Retired Pastor & Engineer, & Karen Johnson Urich, Bolivar, MO



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GERALD W MOSS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: geraldwmoss@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 9:55 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am a retired teacher who has coach girls track and cross country in high school. I also was captain of my college cross country team. I do have experience in sports and cannot believe that we would have males compete on a girls sports team. This would keep girls from obtaining scholarships so they could go on to college. Also why have a girls team if males can be on the team. From a biological standing you are keeping girls from an equal status. Also what does this do to the mental attitude of a female athlete. Both of my daughters had athletic scholarships for college-they did not have to go against males. What has happen to common sense? AS a parent-now grandparent with granddaughters completing in sports-I want them protected and not discriminated against because they are a biological female that now has to compete with someone who is not a female-not equal is it-thank you-Jerry Moss



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: GERALDINE I GRAVES		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: graves3@charter.net		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 12:41 PM
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I believe that only biological women should be playing in women's sports



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GINA ALLEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: cwaofmoprolife@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2021 2:58 PM
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I support hjr 53Thank you



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GINGER YOAK		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: gingeryoak@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2021 9:38 PM

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**i'm in favor of this bill. Science has proven that men are physically able to excel women in most sports.
Women competing against women makes the sport fair.**



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: GLENDA GIBSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: quietstorm@centurytel.net	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 12:20 PM

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God made them male and female and that's the end of it! Allowing "males" to participate in female sports will eventually destroy women's sports! I support this bill !00%!



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JENNIFER GORE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jsg1263@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 9:51 PM

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I am in support of HJR53. The integrity of girls' sports must be protected. Title IX must be protected.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JENNIFER GORE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jsg1263@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2021 6:29 PM
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I am in support of HJR 53



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JENNY SCHULZE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JOAN RAWSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: joanrawson@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2021 11:49 PM
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It is important to have only biological females competing in women sports . Women need a level playing field to compete for wins and for scholarships.Thank you,Joan Rawson



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JORDAN HENRY		PHONE NUMBER: 314-721-1213	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: PHYLLIS SCHLAFly EAGLES		TITLE: DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH	
ADDRESS: 7800 BONHOMME AVENUE			
CITY: SAINT LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63105
EMAIL: jordan@phyllisschlafly.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 3:21 PM	

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Dear Chairman and Distinguished Members of this Committee, I strongly urge you to vote "YES" on HJR 53. Whether on the track, field, court, or mat, girls work hard to be the best at their sports. While they may think they are competing for trophies and medals, the real prizes are the character traits instilled in them as a result of their efforts. Young athletes learn sportsmanship, teamwork, perseverance, and the all-important truth that winning comes from hard work. Sadly, rather than competing on a field or mat, the girls of Missouri are now being forced to fight simply for the right to maintain the integrity of their sport of choice. This comes as a result of the rise of transgender boys professing to be girls and claiming the right of participate on sports teams based on their feelings rather than on facts. While these confused boys may legitimately feel as they claim, they cannot change the basic realities of biology. It is an undisputed fact that biological boys have higher levels of the hormone testosterone than biological girls. It is another undisputed fact that testosterone causes boys to have a number of physical advantages over girls when it comes to sports, including a more dense bone structure, a tendency toward greater muscle development, and more. Even if a boy takes hormone-blocking drugs, the effect of boosted testosterone prior to the drugs' introduction is still evident. All girls deserve a fair playing field. They have the right to compete against other girls on the basis of practice and skill, not on the basis of unfair hormonal advantages. Not to pass HJR 53 is to erase the vital opportunities our girls deserve. Don't strip them of the opportunity to learn valuable lessons and compete for life-changing college scholarships. Please act now, before girls' sports are erased in Missouri forever. Please vote "YES" on HJR 53. Regards, Jordan Henry Director of Research, Phyllis Schlafly Eagles



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LINDA YEAGER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: freedominnutrition@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 10:46 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LISA PARKER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: parkerlighthouse@sbcglobal.net		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 9:47 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LORNA RUTH PIPER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: baconoreggs@yahoo.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2021 11:37 PM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARJIE SAITER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: marjiesaiter@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 1:18 PM
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Males in states of confusion, should not prey on females, proven the weaker sex due to hormones & body build. Your bill preserves female' rights, and stand strong that birth certificates are presented for women's sports. Thank you for being a part of the U.S. great strides to encourage female athletes in K-12 school contests, college scholarships, to paid professionals. Those with other identities, can start their own sports contests. Vote HJR 53 in. Stand Strong.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MARSHA LILLEY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: marshakilley@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 3:02 PM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARY LOPEZ		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: maryatlopez@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2021 9:58 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MARY YAKEL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: maryyakel@hotmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 8:45 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARYLOU CAWOOD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mlcawood10@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2021 12:28 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: NANCY DELCOUR		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: nmdelcour3@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 12:30 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PAM ANDERSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: pander6186@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2021 4:34 PM

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If you follow the science you cannot argue that there are only 2 sexes (male and female). To dispute that fact is not only insane and illogical, it is totally discriminatory against all females. This is a critical issue terrorizing all females. I support Representatives Basye's bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: RAY D. HACKE		PHONE NUMBER: 503-917-4409
REPRESENTING: PACIFIC JUSTICE INSTITUTE CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY		TITLE: STAFF ATTORNEY
ADDRESS: 1850 45TH AVE. NE		
CITY: SALEM		STATE: OR
		ZIP: 97303
EMAIL: rhacke@pji.org	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 2/24/2021 3:53 PM

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I come at the issue of transgender athletes in women's sports from multiple perspectives, including father, sportswriter, and coach. However, it is as an attorney that I wish to speak to the committee: I have written a published legal journal article concerning this issue which illustrates that keeping scholastic sports segregated on the basis of sex is the best, if not only, way to ensure fairness in women's sports. I can explain to the committee why such a law would pass muster under the U.S. Constitution's Equal Protection Clause and achieve the goals that Congress enacted Title IX to accomplish.



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WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ROBERT LITTLE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: rlittle14@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 4:23 PM
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BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ROBERT SCHNEIDER DO		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: rschneider@atsu.edu		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2021 8:40 AM
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: RON CAWOOD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: gipper66@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2021 12:25 PM
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BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN SCHNEIDER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: funfamnz@yahoo.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2021 8:38 AM
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN TAYLOR		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: taylor-su27@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2021 7:31 AM
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The passage of HJR 53 is essential to the continuation of women's sports. Without this protection, women will be denied awards and scholarships when biological men enter into competition with them, demoralizing and eventually ending a vibrant aspect of our society. In addition to this, allowing biological men into women's locker rooms and bathrooms and other traditionally safe spaces will endanger women at worst, and traumatize many at least. I am older now, but had biological males been allowed in locker rooms in my days of competition, I would have dropped out due to the trauma of past assaults. Our women deserve better than this, at every age. They deserve our protection.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: THOMAS DUNN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: trd68@att.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 3:41 PM
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As a member of Rockwood School District's Board of Education and father of three (3) K-12 girls, I am in support of HJR53 and that transgender children should only participate in sports on co-ed teams or on teams that match their gender assigned at birth. ****Please note, this is my opinion and may not reflect the thoughts of my peers on the Board or the School District.****



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: TOM LEUTHER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: ptl@familywc.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 7:41 AM	
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BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: VICKI ANN DUNN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: dunntom@sbcglobal.net		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2021 6:21 PM
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BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: VICKI LEUTHER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: pvl@familywc.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 7:55 AM	
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BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: WAYNE T. ARMBRUST		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 12:00 AM
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BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: WILLIAM H. POHLMAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: pohlman@centurytel.net		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 8:37 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ALEX KALEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: adkalen91@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 11:58 PM
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This bill is overt discrimination under the guise of fairness. It reinforces the idea that trans students ought to stay closeted despite studies having validated the positive effects of sports and group activities on young trans people's mental health.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ALEXIS BIEHL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE: TEACHER
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: akbiehl21@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 8:02 AM

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HJR 53 is a discriminatory bill that will further marginalize trans athletes unnecessarily. Please **DO NOT** push HJR forward, I do not support this discriminatory bill. As a member of the LGBTQ community and a public K-12 educator, I am afraid for what this bill would do to our trans youth and what message it sends. Currently 40% of trans adolescents attempt to/commit suicide. They go through so much bullying and marginalization already, and this is just another attempt to infringe on their rights. The conservative "right" wants us to believe that trans girls have an inherent advantage over cisgender girls, but that fallacy rests on the assumption that testosterone is the superior hormone in terms of athleticism. Not all cisgender boys who are born with naturally higher levels of testosterone are better at sports than girls just like not all cisgender girls are inferior to boys because they are born with lower levels of testosterone. Also, **MANY** if not most of high school trans girl athletes are already on hormone blockers so their testosterone levels are comparable to that of cisgender girls. Trans athletes have been competing at the collegiate and professional levels for years now and we have yet to see any "dominate" their field because that is not a real concern. This is yet another myth started by the conservative "right" to justify policing trans rights and bodies. Additionally, if this bill were put into law, that would conflict with current NCAA guidelines and jeopardize state revenues for NCAA competitions. Those competitions would surely be moved to states without such bills on record to avoid the conflict. This is honestly such a waste of time and money for Missouri. If you pass this bill into law, it will immediately be caught up in lawsuits and litigations which will put a further financial strain on Missouri when we are still in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic. Please focus your efforts on passing more pandemic aid and not trivial discriminatory bills that will just flush money down the toilet. Please don't forget, trans kids are kids first and foremost. They need our protection just as cisgender kids do. They do not pose a threat, they just want to live their lives in peace. They want to feel accepted and supported and able to play on the sports team of the correct gender that they identify with. Please educate yourselves on Trans issues before moving this ignorant bill forward. I would highly recommend the Netflix documentary, Disclosure, as well as the documentary specifically on trans athletes, Changing the Game.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ALLISON BREWER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: info@voice-is.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 4:14 PM
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Greetings, My name is Allison Brewer and I am a resident of St. Louis City, Missouri. While I reside in St. Louis city, I serve children across the state of Missouri as an educational advocate and have supported children, families, and schools in half of the LEAs in the state. I am in strong opposition to HJR 53. I have been serving the children of this state for over 15 years. My life's work is to ensure that all children in this state (and country) have equitable access to learning, living, and community environments. I serve children and families that have the least access to education and that includes the poorest children in rural environments, children in foster care, LGBTQIA+ youth, etc. In addition to my professional work in this field, I am also a nonbinary parent of a child who is gender expansive. My 12 (almost 13) year old has had transgender youth and adults as friends, neighbors, and family. I want the very best for my child and for all the children in the state of Missouri and as an expert in the field, we know that access to physically active and engaging opportunities are vital in the health and development of all children. Transgender youth should have the opportunity to engage in athletic activities that are inclusive of their gender identity because it is best practice and because it is what the transgender youth of this state are requesting. For far too long, education has been built on the basis of exclusion. We have the opportunity to correct our course from one that excludes children and denies opportunity, to one that is inclusive of the very real transgender youth in this state. It was not too long ago that we excluded children with disabilities from out of school activities like sports, clubs, and community events. Today, we include a statement in every IEP and Section 504 Plan that explicitly states that this child with a disability is guaranteed equitable access to sports and other out of school time activities in a manner inclusive of their needs. I want to remind you that our LGBTQIA+ youth are identified with disabilities at rates exponentially larger than the general population, which means that there are many transgender youth who we are also responsible for protecting and serving under IDEA and Section 504. I would hope that the committee today would stand with us in opposition to HJR 53 and take a step forward towards ensuring that Missouri youth are in schools and environments where all children can thrive. Thank you for hearing and considering this testimony from the perspective of an educational advocate serving youth in all of your districts and a nonbinary parent of a gender expansive youth. Sincerely, Allison Brewer (they/them) March 3, 2021



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: AMY HOOGSTRAET		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: amyjanehoogstraet@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 2:21 PM
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The "issue" of transgender girls competing with cisgender girls (girls whose gender matches the sex they were assigned at birth) in sports is a non-issue. Here's why. In the state of MO, and in many other states, MSHSAA mandates that transgender girls can compete on girls' teams after at least a year of hormone therapy. This is considered key to the competition being fair, and is assumed in the rest of this answer. I will add, though, that it is my personal belief that even many transgender girls who have NOT had hormone therapy should be allowed to play on girls' teams. I'll discuss that more below. This answer deals with children in junior high and above. In the elementary years (before puberty), there is no significant difference in ability between genders, so separating kids this young by gender at all is unnecessary. Let's discuss a transgender girl who has had puberty blockers to stop her from going through male puberty. In this case, she didn't develop the higher levels of testosterone and all of the extra muscle, strength, height, limb length, etc. that goes with that. In this case, she has no advantage over a cisgender girl. Let's now discuss a transgender girl who didn't get puberty blockers, but who has been on hormone therapy for a year. She may be taller and/or have longer limbs than some cisgender girls, but the year of hormone therapy has reduced testosterone levels, caused loss of muscle and addition of fat, and redistribution of fat to breasts and hips. Cisgender girls come in all different heights and with all different limb lengths, so if this transgender girl is tall, that's not a reason she shouldn't compete with cisgender girls. Let's dig deeper with this girl. If she has been on hormone therapy for at least a year, that means that she has known for much longer than that that she is, indeed, a girl. What many people don't realize is that the road to hormone therapy for transgender minors (and adults, for that matter) is a long one, starting with their own awareness and growing unhappiness, and then including parental acceptance (which often doesn't happen overnight) and awareness that the child needs treatment. Before a child starts hormone therapy, there are appointments with doctors and psychiatrists to make absolutely sure that this is the right path. It is NOT a quick process. So, this girl has known for some time even before starting hormone therapy that she is a girl. Given that, it's safe to assume that she hasn't been lifting weights, working out a lot, or doing anything to enhance her male physique, right? She doesn't WANT to look like a male; she wants to look feminine. So even before starting hormone therapy, she most likely doesn't have a very "buff," strong body in the first place. The playing field has already been largely leveled, and hormone therapy will only serve to level it more. Speaking of a level playing field, let's discuss how that's really a myth. Take a team of all cisgender girls. Some girls are taller, leaner, stronger, faster, more talented than others. Some girls are more serious about the sport and spend much more time practicing and honing their skills than others. Some girls come from wealthier families that can provide extra equipment, lessons, and training opportunities for them. There are some cisgender girls who are stronger and faster than some cisgender males! So, the playing field is never level, even without the addition of a transgender teammate. What about changing in the locker room? The transgender girl can change in a stall.

Problem solved. What about cisgender boys who want to lie about being trans and play on a girls' team to have an advantage or to see girls naked in the locker room? REALLY? How many boys would undergo a year of hormone therapy just to do this? Now, let's talk about the transgender girl's mental and emotional health. In junior high and high school, should sports be more about winning, or about all of the other stuff – friendship, camaraderie, teamwork, learning skills and discipline, having a place to belong, etc.? I would like to think that most of us would say that they should be about the other stuff. In that case, where would the greater harm lie? Would it lie with a team of cisgender girls who have one transgender girl on their team, or would it lie with that transgender girl if she is forced to play on a boys' team or not to play at all? If she knows that she's a girl and wants to be seen as a girl by her peers, what will it do to her to be on a boys' team, being referred to as one of the boys, and being at a great disadvantage physically due to her year+ of hormone therapy? What will it do to her to be told that she can't play the sport she loves at all, because she doesn't "fit in" on either team? At the junior high and high school level, sports should be primarily about enhancing kids' mental and emotional well-being and about acceptance and inclusivity, not exclusivity. Additionally, I believe that in many cases, even if a transgender girl has not had a year of hormone therapy, she should be allowed to play on a girls' team. Bodies vary greatly, and given what I said above regarding the fact that a transgender girl probably hasn't done anything to enhance her physique, I believe that in many cases, a transgender girl, even without hormone therapy, may not have much (if any) physical advantage over cisgender girls, and certainly not enough of a physical advantage that it would outweigh the emotional harm she would suffer by not being able to play. It would make the most sense for this to be handled on a case-by-case basis. If the trans girl does not have a "very male" physique, why not let her play with the girls? If she ends up winning every time, well, then that decision could be reevaluated. The same goes for a transgender girl who HAS had hormone therapy. In either case, why should we start from a place of exclusion? Why not start with inclusion? Let her play on the girls' team, and then IF there's a problem with a too-significant advantage, revisit the decision. Why can't the transgender girls just have their own team? Really? In any given high school, there would probably be, at the most, one or two transgender girls who want to play sports. Given these odds, I don't understand why anyone is even fixated on this "issue" in the first place! P.S. Transgender athletes have been allowed to compete in the Olympics since 2004, and there has not been a single transgender medalist so far. P.P.S. It is my belief that 99% of people who oppose transgender girls playing on girls' teams feel this way because of fear and ignorance, and a lack of education on the facts of the matter. Education and an open mind make all the difference!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANGELA SCHAEFER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: angiewrites2010@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 7:54 PM
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Our legislators should allow expert medical opinion, expert opinions from experienced athletic personnel and the safety health and well being of these minor children to help them form reasonable laws and guidelines rather than relying on their own opinions and beliefs. Both NCAA and MSHSAA bylaws outline inclusion policies for transgender participation to insure competitive fairness, equity and physical safety of all school sports and student-athletes. Processes are in place to ensure there is no unfair advantage and the safety of each student is of the utmost concern – including the safety of the transgender student athlete. Please do the right thing and vote no on HJR 53.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANNELIESE SCHAEFER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: amschaefer@wustl.edu	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 10:50 PM
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My name is Anneliese Schaefer, and I'm here to testify in opposition to HJR 53. I'm here because our family, working closely with our child's school and her medical team, went through a rigorous and months-long process required by MSHSAA so that our daughter could participate in sports. Our transgender daughter wanted to play soccer. We as parents saw the value of sports participation, far beyond simply trying to win a game, including friendships and life lessons. Our daughter initially approached the school leadership, and then we all met so that the school could inform us about the MSHSAA policy. Under that policy, our daughter could participate after she had completed a year of hormone therapy, and so long as she continued hormone therapy. In addition to completion of MSHSAA's own form, the policy required letters of support from us as parents, from our daughter, from our daughter's medical doctor, from her therapist, from a family friend, and from the school. The purpose was to show that her belief in her gender was real, that it was consistent, and that it was persistent. We reached out to request and then collect the letters required by the MSHSAA policy. We submitted the MSHSAA application form along with the letters, and then waited. After consideration, MSHSAA asked for further documentation from the medical doctor, which he provided. After consideration, MSHSAA granted our daughter's request to participate. We share these details to illustrate that MSHSAA's process is rigorous. Moreover, it is modeled after the NCAA policy for participation of transgender athletes, which itself was based on data, on consideration of fairness, and on the goal of allowing transgender athletes to participate. In our view, the MSHSAA policy is fair. The proposed legislation would simply eliminate the option for someone like our daughter to participate – an outcome that is not necessary given the data and the existing MSHSAA policy, and an outcome that will cause significant harm to children. Moreover, placing the issue as a ballot initiative heightens concerns for the safety of our daughter and others who are transgender. The state of Missouri has a process in-place that is rigorous, and MSHSAA was thoughtful in implementing that policy. HJR 53 is an extreme measure that isn't necessary at best, and has the potential for great harm. Thank you for the opportunity to tell our story.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
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WITNESS NAME			
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WITNESS NAME: APRIL ZIMMERMAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
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WITNESS NAME			
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WITNESS NAME: ASHLEY QUINN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: ashleynquinn@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 12:03 PM

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Dear Chairperson and members of the House Emerging Issues Committee: My name is Ashley Quinn, my pronouns are he/him/his/él, I am an out queer and transgender man, registered voter in House District 132, born and raised in Springfield, MO. I serve as Justice Coordinator at my church and help run a Crisis Cold Weather Shelter. I have worked as an aide and educator in elementary, jr. high, and high schools in Texas and Missouri, a youth minister, a direct care counselor at a youth homeless shelter, and I have volunteered as facilitator of an LGBTQ youth group. I am also in the midst of being licensed as a foster parent.??I testify in opposition to HJR 53.I love playing sports, but I am/was throughout high school, affectionately, a benchwarmer. I once told my coach: Gosh, I'm lucky to have gone to a school with no tryouts, because I surely wouldn't have made the cut. However, my coach countered my self-belittling language. Coach said every team needs good bench players - players who are enthusiastic, encouraging, attentive, ready & willing to jump in the game and play almost any position at any whistle. Coach said if my team had had tryouts, they would have picked me, because that's the kind of bench player I was. As a senior gift Coach gave me a card with a quote, "Whatever you are, be a good one," and this has become something of a motto in my life. Being a part of a team has been of incalculable value in my life. Not because I can dribble a basketball or run a 5k, but because of the ways it has taught me to be in the world. It taught me to work towards a common goal even with individuals I may not particularly like, or get along with, to shake hands with my opponents. Being a part of a team taught me to speak up for my teammates when they were afraid to speak up for themselves. It taught me to root for the underdog and to put hope even in the seemingly impossible. I probably wouldn't be here today if not for team sports.MSHSAA already has a fair policy in place. The notion of replacing a high school athletics association policy with a state constitutional amendment is absurd in its overreach. This joint resolution would rob transgender children of opportunities to be a part of a team, to learn the kind of life skills that I learned. If you tell a girl, a kid who knows she's a girl and has perhaps since before she could speak, that she has to play on the boy's basketball team instead of the girl's, then she's just not going to play. This resolution effectively bans transgender youth from participating in high school athletics. Furthermore, sending this to a public vote, debating children's identities and existence on a public stage, across the state, would have devastating impacts on transgender young people and adults, as well as our families. I oppose HJR 53. Thank you for your time.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
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WITNESS NAME: BETSY VANDERHEYDEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: betsy@vanderheydens.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 11:33 AM
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Transgender kids, like other students, deserve the same chances to learn teamwork, sportsmanship, leadership, and self-discipline, as well as a sense of belonging with their peers. I am writing in opposition to HJR 53 - INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CONTESTS which will exclude transgender athletes from teams that align with their gender. Transgender girls and boys and their families must not be discriminated against. Policies that single out transgender students from sports inevitably are policies that isolate transgender youth from participating in many aspects of the school experience with peers and friends. Let's focus on legislation that is inclusive so that every child has the same opportunities to participate in sports and life.



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WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME			
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WITNESS NAME: BRANDON BOULWARE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: brandon@boulware-law.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person		SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 11:11 AM
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I am the father of a transgender child. This bill is a solution in search of a problem. Discriminatory language like that proposed has no place in Missouri law, let alone the State's Constitution.



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WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
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WITNESS NAME: CAMERON LEE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: macrone.lee@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 8:10 PM
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Dear Honorable Emerging Issues Committee Members, Thank you for allowing me to present testimony to you today. As a Boone County resident, transgender person, and parent of a kindergartner, I would like to express my opposition to HJR 53, which would ban transgender youth from participating in sports. A resolution that singles out transgender students to be excluded from participating in sports that align with their gender is inherently discriminatory. HJR 53 targets transgender youth and denies them equal access to athletic participation and the opportunity to learn teamwork, leadership, and self-discipline. Categorical exclusion from student life also isolates transgender youth from the opportunity to bond and build relationships with other students. As a parent, my hope is that my daughter will learn in an environment where all students are included, encouraged, and treated with dignity and respect. As a transgender Missourian, I want to live in a state that upholds its values of individual liberty, personal freedom, and the right to live life free of government overreach. HJR 53 upholds precisely the opposite: it utilizes government overreach to enforce discrimination against a group of individuals in order to deny them equal access to participation in public life. For these reasons, I strongly urge you to oppose HJR 53. Transgender youth should be included in sports that align with their gender because they deserve to be included in all aspects of education, just as their peers are. Thank you for your time.



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WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME: CARL HOAGRAND		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CARLA WILLIS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: carlawillis32812@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 5:22 PM
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Honorable Committee Members, Good morning. My name is Carla Willis and I live in Stewartsville, Missouri. (20 minutes east of St. Joseph). I strongly oppose HRJ 53. I am writing you as the parent of a daughter who is not transgender. She left private school after her Freshman year in the Kansas City area, and attended a public high school that saved her life. In every sense of the word. Without being involved in school activities, specifically the Speech and Debate Team for 3 years, she would not have made friends as easily or plentifully, she would not have had a “place” in her school where she was unconditionally accepted, supported, and loved, and she would not have found her HOME that she desperately needed and wanted. Her coach became a surrogate parent, mentor, positive example and lifeline in high school. Her teammates became her real, everyday family which she turned to in good times and difficult times, while she was forced to endure the painful experience of living with her abusive father and step-mother. I had remarried 2 years earlier and moved an hour away to Stewartsville and she would not even consider switching schools at that point. She went from a shy, fearful and anxious girl to an independent, strong and fierce young woman who qualified for and went to Nationals her senior year. Although the Speech and Debate Team is not considered an athletic team, it consists of the same rules, expectations, practices MISHAA guidelines and competitions as any other high school team. Watching her grow in confidence, self-esteem, self-respect, responsibility, determination and finding her own voice, were all made possible by being a part of her team. I will be forever grateful to her coach and teammates for standing for her, behind her and with her, when she needed it the most. They did something for her, that even as her mother, I could not do. And although my daughter is not transgender, I know ALL students deserve to have access to participate in school activities and athletics. I do not believe this legislation protects students like my daughter, and that it would actually hurt all students. It will exclude their friends from being able to participate in the full school experience. My daughter’s full team is what gave her that sense of home and of belonging which allowed her to thrive and be her best self. By removing transgender students from being able to participate in any school activities and athletics, does as much harm to them as their peers. I personally understand the fear of the unknown. The fear of things we don’t understand, that pushes us all as humans, to feel the need to defend ourselves and especially our children. Until the last few years, I did not understand what being transgender meant or have any lived experience with transgender people in my life. But I have realized that my fear was completely misguided and unfounded. Imagine the fear of being judged because of living your life as who you truly are? Or scarier yet, the fear of your child being bullied, shunned, discriminated against or even killed because they are living their authentic life? But this misunderstanding and fear cannot be the motivation to write legislation restricting any student from the full opportunity to grow to their full human potential. I firmly believe HJR53 would prove harmful to all Missourians. Please vote in opposition of HJR53. I sincerely thank this committee for your

time and your public service to all of us. Carla Willis



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WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CATHRYN OAKLEY		PHONE NUMBER: 202-572-8974	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN		TITLE: STATE LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR AND SENIOR COUNSEL	
ADDRESS: 1640 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.			
CITY: WASHINGTON		STATE: DC	ZIP: 20036
EMAIL: cathryn.oakley@hrc.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 2:05 PM	

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House Committee on Emerging Issues Missouri State Legislature 201 W Capitol Ave Jefferson City, MO 65101 March 2, 2021 Re: Human Rights Campaign Opposition to H.J.R. 53 Dear Chair Griesheimer and Members of the Committee, The Human Rights Campaign (HRC), on behalf of three million members and supporters nationwide, thanks you for the opportunity to submit testimony to help inform your deliberation on H.J.R. 53. We strongly oppose this legislation and it is our strong recommendation that the committee not advance it. The Human Rights Campaign is America's largest civil rights organization working to achieve lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) equality. By inspiring and engaging all Americans, HRC strives to end discrimination against LGBTQ citizens and realize a nation that achieves fundamental fairness and equality for all. Transgender students, like all students, can benefit from participating in sports, and allowing them to participate in athletic activities consistent with their gender identity in no way disadvantages their fellow students. Further, attempting to separate transgender youth from their peers is impractical, unfair, and unnecessary. Finally, similar legislation passed by Idaho last year has been enjoined by a federal court on the grounds that it is discriminatory and unconstitutional. Many are rightly protective of the legacy of women's sports in this country. Importantly, advocates for women and girls in sports – such as the National Women's Law Center, the Women's Sports Foundation, Women Leaders in College Sports, and others – support trans-inclusive policies and oppose efforts to exclude transgender students from participating in sports. That's because while there are real issues facing women's sports, including a lack of resources devoted to supporting them, transgender participation in athletics is not one of them. Rather, bills like these are a reincarnation of the narrative underpinning anti-transgender bathroom bills like North Carolina's infamous HB2 – they use fear-based arguments that suggest transgender girls identify as such only to take advantage of female students, despite overwhelming evidence to the contrary. A widely-cited and misrepresented situation in Connecticut involves two transgender athletes out of an estimated 150,000 transgender youth across the country.¹ No other state has been able to put forward evidence of transgender girls' participation in athletics having any harmful impact at all upon cisgender girls who also participate, despite many states having policies that allow transgender girls to play consistent with their gender. There simply is no problem here that requires the legislature's attention. Neither is there a problem at the collegiate or professional level, where collegiate and professional athletics associations have adopted policies, informed by experts, to ensure fair competition by adults. This bill will create problems, not resolve them: note that the NCAA came out against the Idaho anti-transgender athletics bill, calling it "harmful to transgender student-athletes, and [in conflict with] with the NCAA's core values of inclusivity, respect and the equitable treatment of all

individuals". The statement went on to reiterate that such legislation will be considered in the selection of host sites for tournaments and other NCAA events.² Finally, while bills like these have proliferated in state legislatures across the country last year and this, pushed by an organization that has been designated an anti-LGBTQ hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center, every legislature but one has declined to pass it. That's because this flagrantly discriminatory bill will suffer the same fate as Idaho's H.B. 500: immediate challenge in court. The District Court issued a preliminary injunction stopping enforcement of the Idaho bill (that injunction is currently on appeal to 9th Circuit), decisively rejecting the arguments by the state, which are the same arguments put forward justifying this bill. The Court concluded that "the incredibly small percentage of transgender women athletes in general, coupled with the significant dispute regarding whether such athletes actually have physiological advantages over cisgender women when they have undergone hormone suppression in particular, suggest the Act's categorical exclusion of transgender women athletes has no relationship to ensuring equality and opportunities for female athletes in Idaho." The Court further invoked as evidence that Idaho had considered other pieces of anti-transgender legislation in the same session and concluded that it was disapproval of transgender people, and not an actual government interest, that provoked the passage of the legislation. Missouri is among the states considering the highest number of anti-transgender bills this year. There is no reason for Missouri to embark on a similarly discriminatory and futile path. It is simply not true that transgender girls and women pose any risk to women's sports. In fact, transgender women and girls have participated in sport in many states at many levels for many years, and the fact is that cisgender girls and women have not been harmed by everyone having the ability to play. The narrative that transgender girls and women will dominate sports if allowed to play is disproved by data: for example, no female transgender athlete has qualified for the Olympics despite rules permitting participation that have been in place for more than a decade. At the high school level, 20 states already allow transgender kids to compete in sports consistent with their gender identity, and at the college level the NCAA has its own policy allowing athletes to participate in sports consistent with their gender identity. A small percentage of people identify as being transgender, many transgender youth are not interested in playing sports, and those who do play want to play for the same reasons other youth like sports: because sports are fun. Transgender youth, depending on their age and personal circumstances, may or may not have embarked on any amount of medical transition. For those who have, it is critical to reiterate that transgender people do not gain an inherent competitive advantage in sports by virtue of transition. Participation in sports is essential for young athletes to be able to stay fit, develop healthy habits, and learn the virtues of practice and teamwork. The history of sports in this country has been about opening up true, meaningful opportunities to participate in sports – and allowing transgender people to participate in sports furthers that goal, not threatens it. For these reasons, we request you reject this harmful and discriminatory bill. Sincerely, Cathryn Oakley, State Legislative Director and Senior Counsel, Human Rights Campaign

---1 Herman, Jody L. et al. "Age of Individuals Who Identify As Transgender in the United States". Williams Institute, January 2017. <https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/publications/age-trans-individuals-us/>2 Full statement made on June 11, 2020, available at <http://www.ncaa.org/about/resources/mediacenter/news/ncaa-statement-regarding-idaho-transgender-law/>: "As we have previously stated, Idaho's House Bill 500 and resulting law is harmful to transgender student-athletes and conflicts with the NCAA's core values of inclusivity, respect and the equitable treatment of all individuals. Further, Board of Governors policy requires host sites to demonstrate how they will provide an environment that is safe, healthy, and free of discrimination, plus safeguards the dignity of everyone involved in the event. As such, the NCAA Board of Governors was scheduled to discuss the legislation and its implications to student-athletes at its August meeting. NCAA championships are open to everyone, and the Association is committed to assuring that its events are safe and healthy for all who attend. It is our clear expectation that all NCAA student-athletes will be welcomed, treated with respect, and have nondiscriminatory participation wherever they compete." HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
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WITNESS NAME: CHANDLER SHIPP		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ChandlerLTShipp@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 8:47 AM
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Not only would this bill discriminate against trans kids even further, passing the bill would do nothing but harm them. The argument is not should boys be allowed to participate in women's sports, and should girls be allowed to participate in men's sports. The argument should be, do trans kids deserve to participate in the sport they not only identify with, but share the most similarities to. Transgender teens, with few exceptions, have identified with the opposite gender for most of their life! Even if they have just recently come out to friends and family. The argument made for keeping trans kids out of sports usually includes some sort of idea that a big strong, athletic man will be competing with weaker, still athletic but not as good, women. This is not how the majority of trans kids act, look, or even sound. It is also very demeaning of women in sports. If you want to remove all Trans kids from the sport they have the best chance of winning in, then why do we even have separate sports teams in the first place? The reason we have separated teams is to give everyone a fair chance at success, forcing trans teens into the sport that fits their biological sex would not give them a fair chance at succeeding. Will trans kids sometimes come out on top? Yes. You will find, however, that the percentage of trans kids that comes out on top is equal, if not lower, to cis kids coming out on top in sports. They have no more of an advantage than a tall girl would have over a shorter girl. This bill would do all harm, and zero good. Equality is important, and we can do better than the minority of individuals who wish to discriminate out of hate.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CHASE STRANGIO		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION		TITLE: DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR TRANSGENDER JUSTICE	
ADDRESS: ACLU, 125 BROAD ST., 18TH FL.			
CITY: NEW YORK		STATE: NY	ZIP: 10004
EMAIL: cstrangio@aclu.org	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2021 6:37 AM	
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Written Testimony of Chase Strangio, Deputy Director for Trans Justice American Civil Liberties Union In Opposition to HJR 53

The American Civil Liberties Union testifies today in strong opposition to HJR 53. I am currently counsel for Plaintiffs in litigation challenging a similar bill passed by the State of Idaho in 2020, Hecox v. Little, and for Intervenor-Defendants Andraya Yearwood and Terry Miller, in Soule v. CIAC in Connecticut, defending the rights of transgender student-athletes to compete in high school athletics consistent with their gender identity. I was also counsel in Carcaño et al. v. Cooper et al., the legal challenge to North Carolina’s anti-trans laws, HB 2 and HB 142. As such, I am familiar with the prevailing doctrine governing litigation in this area of law and have direct knowledge of the costs and fees associated with litigation of this kind. By imposing a wholesale ban on girls and young women who are transgender participating in athletics consistent with their gender identity, HJR 53 discriminates based on transgender status and sex in violation of the United States Constitution and Title IX of the Civil Rights Act. Trans youth, just like all youth, simply want to participate in the activities they love, including athletics. Trans students participate in sports for the same reasons other young people do: to challenge themselves, improve fitness, and be part of a team. This bill would deprive a subset of students and young people of the opportunities available to their peers and, if passed, would send a message to vulnerable transgender youth that they are not welcome or accepted in their communities. This bill is based on the flawed premise that exclusion of girls and young women who are transgender benefits non-transgender girls and women. But in reality, transgender people of all ages have been participating in sports consistent with their gender at all levels for years including at the Olympics since at least since 2004 and in the NCAA since at least 2011. With close to 20 years of clear policies for inclusion of women and girls who are transgender in women’s events at the highest level of sport around the world, there has been absolutely no categorical dominance by women and girls who are transgender anywhere. Despite being eligible, no transgender female athlete has ever qualified for, let alone medaled in, a women’s event at the Olympics. Athletic success is based on many factors that vary sport to sport. Trans athletes, like other athletes, do not have a single body type; there is absolutely no merit to the claim that women and girls who are transgender automatically have advantages in sport. In fact, particularly when referring to young people, many trans athletes have physiological characteristics that are typical of peers with their gender identity and not their assigned sex. This means that a girl who is transgender may have more physiological characteristics typical of non-transgender girls than non-transgender boys. Thus, any data purporting to compare the relative athletic abilities typical of non-transgender girls and non-transgender boys simply do not apply to most transgender youth. By singling out transgender women and girls and enacting a sweeping ban on participation in athletics, HJR 53 violates both the United States Constitution and Title IX of the Civil

Rights Act. Where a law singles out people based on the fact that they have a gender identity that does not match the sex assigned to them at birth, it necessarily discriminates on the basis of sex and trans status, thus triggering heightened equal protection scrutiny under the Constitution. “[I]t is impossible to discriminate against a person for being ... transgender without discriminating against that individual based on sex.” As the U.S. Supreme Court has explained, “[a]ll gender-based classifications today warrant heightened scrutiny.” There is no exception to heightened scrutiny for gender discrimination based on physiological or biological sex-based characteristics. This bill, if passed, would separately trigger heightened scrutiny for discriminating against individuals based on transgender status. Last summer, an Idaho court enjoined a similar ban on transgender women and girls participating in women’s athletics and reached the “inescapable conclusion that the Act discriminates on the basis of transgender status” and thus triggered heightened scrutiny. The court reasoned, “the Act on its face discriminates between cisgender athletes, who may compete on athletic teams consistent with their gender identity, and transgender women athletes, who may not compete on athletic teams consistent with their gender identity.” Parties who seek to defend gender-based and trans-status based government action must demonstrate an “‘exceedingly persuasive justification’ for that action.” Under this standard, “the burden of justification is demanding and it rests entirely on the State.” The Missouri legislature has so far has offered no justification for HJR 53 except for hypothetical future problems that have not arisen. But under heightened scrutiny, justifications “must be genuine, not hypothesized or invented post hoc in response to litigation.” This demanding standard leaves no room for a state to hypothesize harm and impose a categorical exclusion far exceeding anything utilized even at the most elite levels of competition. Applying this standard, the Hecox court enjoined Idaho’s ban on women and girls participating in women’s sports solely because they are transgender, finding the state’s proffered justifications wholly insufficient. Likewise, if passed, HJR 53 would violate Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Title IX protects all students—including students who are transgender—from discrimination based on sex. Title IX states that “[n]o person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.” The overwhelming majority of courts to consider the issue have held that discrimination against transgender students in schools is prohibited sex discrimination under Title IX. Since the Supreme Court’s decision in *Bostock*, two federal appeals courts have affirmed that Title IX’s prohibition on sex discrimination likewise prohibits discrimination against transgender students when accessing single-sex spaces and activities. The Biden-Harris administration has made clear that it intends to enforce federal civil rights statutes, including Title IX, consistent with the Supreme Court’s holding in *Bostock*. This means that should Missouri pass HJR 53 or bills like it that target transgender students for discrimination, it will not only likely face litigation by private parties but also by the federal government. And such a violation of Title IX will not only cost the state substantially in litigation costs but will also put the state’s federal education funding at risk. For FY 2021, the estimated federal funding for primary and secondary education was over \$639 million and total funding for education, over \$3.2 billion. Other than the state of Idaho, which enacted a similar law in 2020 that has since been enjoined, no state, national or international athletic body has implemented an outright ban on transgender individuals competing in athletics consistent with their gender identity. Such an extreme policy is out-of-step with prevailing international and national norms of athletic competition, violates the United States Constitution and federal civil rights law, puts Missouri at risk of losing hundreds of millions of dollars in federal funding, and harms transgender youth, all to solve a problem that plainly does not exist. Transgender students already live and go to school in Missouri, they play sports and enjoy time with their friends, and they deserve the chance to succeed and thrive like any other student. For these reasons, we urge your “no” vote. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: CHERYL ADELSTEIN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-518-1185
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL		TITLE: DEPUTY DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 12 MILLSTONE CAMPUS DRIVE		
CITY: SAINT LOUIS	STATE: MO	ZIP: 63146
EMAIL: cadelstein@jcrctl.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/25/2021 5:21 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Testimony in Opposition to HJR 53 Please accept this written testimony on behalf of the Jewish Community Relations Council of St. Louis in opposition to HJR 53. This resolution would put the rights of transgender youth on the ballot in the 2022 election. Missourians would vote whether or not to amend our state constitution to require student athletes to participate in sports according to their sex assigned at birth. The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), guided by Jewish values, advocates, educates, collaborates and mobilizes action on issues important to the Jewish community, 60,000 strong in St. Louis. We are committed to pursuing religious tolerance, civic discourse and social justice in St. Louis and beyond. One of the strongest ethical principles in Judaism is kavod habriyot, human dignity. Every individual is entitled to kavod habriyot by having been made b'tzelem elohim, in God's image. As an organization grounded in Jewish values, we have an ethical and moral responsibility to fight for a society that ensures the humanity, dignity, and equality of all people. Every person is entitled to live without fear of persecution, harassment, or discrimination. For centuries, there has been recognition within Judaism and Jewish movements of a diverse spectrum of sex and gender identities. Across Jewish legal codes and rabbinic commentary, there are hundreds of references to at least six different genders. Many of our texts affirm the existence of transgender, intersex, and genderfluid individuals and acknowledge that gender may change after birth. Multiple federal courts have ruled that federal sex discrimination laws – including Title VII, Title IX, the Fair Housing Act, Equal Credit Opportunity Act, and Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act – also prohibit discrimination against transgender people. Transgender athletes participate in sports for the same reasons as everyone else — to learn good sportsmanship, get and stay healthy, be part of a team, and build a sense of belonging with their peers. Our laws should protect transgender youth, not encourage discrimination against them. We urge you to oppose HJR 53.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CHRISTINE HYMAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CHRISTOPHER SMITH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: zappatista.smith@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2021 12:01 PM
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This bill is a bad solution in search of a non-existent problem, given that there is generally more intra-gender morphological variation among high school scholastic athletes than there is transgender variation. This bill will not create more fair competition based on morphological variation between competitors, and if that were the true goal, Rep. Bayse should have crafted a bill that would create intra-gender competitive classes based on height, weight, cognitive ability, or any number of physical characteristics that vary widely among cis-gender athletes, giving some athletes competitive edges over other athletes within the same "boys" or "girls" sports. Given that this bill does not create competitive classes that would group athletes based on physical characteristics directly related to competitive advantage, I conclude that the bill instead seeks to single out only transgender athletes for reasons unrelated to competitive fairness, in order to mandate conformity with Rep. Bayse's limited and misguided views on whether young people and families he doesn't even know should be able to make their own decisions about how to live their lives. Rep. Bayse's personal feelings are not a sound basis for crafting public policy for an entire state. This bill's main effect will be to stigmatize transgender athletes, creating a chilling effect on their full participation in scholastic activities, isolating them within their communities, and thus harming their social and emotional development. Given that the bill will not increase competitive fairness and will harm Missouri children's full participation in the range of scholastic activities designed by their communities to encourage their optimal development and education, it should not be passed by this committee.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CINDY BEECHER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: cindy.marlie@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 1:45 PM
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This bill aims to codify and encourage discrimination against Missouri students. It seems that some representatives in the Missouri legislature are ignorant of issues that the transgender community faces and that many lack empathy for their constituents and fellow Missourians. I strongly oppose HJR53 and urge representatives to learn more about the transgender community so that you will not regret your outright hatred and discrimination towards your fellow community members in the future. Here is a good starting point to learn about the transgender community from the Human Rights Campaign: "Transgender people come from all walks of life, and HRC Foundation has estimated that there are more than 2 million of us across the United States. We are parents, siblings, and kids. We are your coworkers, your neighbors, and your friends. We are 7-year-old children and 70-year-old grandparents. We are a diverse community, representing all racial and ethnic backgrounds, as well as all faith traditions. The word "transgender" – or trans – is an umbrella term for people whose gender identity is different from the sex assigned to us at birth. Although the word "transgender" and our modern definition of it only came into use in the late 20th century, people who would fit under this definition have existed in every culture throughout recorded history. Alongside the increased visibility of trans celebrities like Laverne Cox, Jazz Jennings or the stars of the hit Netflix series "Pose," three out of every ten adults in the U.S. personally knows someone who is trans. As trans people become more visible, we aim to increase understanding of our community among our friends, families, and society. What does it mean to be trans? The trans community is incredibly diverse. Some trans people identify as trans men or trans women, while others may describe themselves as non-binary, genderqueer, gender non-conforming, agender, bigender or other identities that reflect their personal experience. Some of us take hormones or have surgery as part of our transition, while others may change our pronouns or appearance. Roughly three-quarters of trans youth that responded to an HRC Foundation and University of Connecticut survey identified with terms other than strictly "boy" or "girl." This suggests that a larger portion of this generation's youth are identifying somewhere on the broad trans spectrum. What challenges do trans people face? While trans people are increasingly visible in both popular culture and in daily life, we still face severe discrimination, stigma and systemic inequality. Some of the specific issues facing the trans community are: Lack of legal protection– Trans people face a legal system that often does not protect us from discrimination based on our gender identity. Despite a recent U.S. Supreme Court Decision that makes it clear that trans people are legally protected from discrimination in the workplace, there is still no comprehensive federal non-discrimination law that includes gender identity - which means trans people may still lack recourse if we face discrimination when we're seeking housing or dining in a restaurant. Moreover, state legislatures across the country are debating – and in some cases passing – legislation specifically designed to prohibit trans people from accessing public bathrooms that correspond with our gender identity, or creating exemptions based on religious beliefs that would allow discrimination against

LGBTQ people. Poverty– Trans people live in poverty at elevated rates, and for trans people of color, these rates are even higher. Around 29% of trans adults live in poverty, as well 39% of Black trans adults, 48% of Latinx trans adults and 35% of Alaska Native, Asian, Native Americans and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander trans adults. **Stigma, Harassment and Discrimination** – About half a decade ago, only one-quarter of people in the United States supported trans rights, and support increased to 62% by the year 2019. Despite this progress, the trans community still faces considerable stigma due to more than a century of being characterized as mentally ill, socially deviant and sexually predatory. While these intolerant views have faded in recent years for lesbians and gay men, trans people are often still ridiculed by a society that does not understand us. This stigma plays out in a variety of contexts – from lawmakers who leverage anti-trans stigma to score cheap political points; to family, friends or coworkers who reject trans people upon learning about our trans identities; and to people who harass, bully and commit serious violence against trans people. This includes stigma that prevents them from accessing necessary services for their survival and well-being. Only 30% of women’s shelters are willing to house trans women. While recent legal progress has been made, 27% of trans people have been fired, not hired or denied a promotion due to their trans identity. Too often, harassment has led trans people to avoid exercising their most basic rights to vote. HRC Foundation’s research shows that 49% of trans adults, and 55% of trans adults of color said they were unable to vote in at least one election in their life because of fear of or experiencing discrimination at the polls. **Violence Against Trans People**– Trans people experience violence at rates far greater than the average person. Over a majority (54%) of trans people have experienced some form of intimate partner violence, 47% have been sexually assaulted in their lifetime and nearly one in ten were physically assaulted in between 2014 and 2015. This type of violence can be fatal. At least 27 trans and gender non-conforming people have been violently killed in 2020 thus far, the same number of fatalities observed in 2019. **Lack of Healthcare Coverage**– An HRC Foundation analysis found that 22% of trans people and 32% of trans people of color have no health insurance coverage. More than one-quarter (29%) of trans adults have been refused health care by a doctor or provider because of their gender identity. This sobering data reveals a healthcare system that fails to meet the needs of the trans community. **Identity Documents** – The widespread lack of accurate identity documents among trans people can have an impact on every aspect of their lives, including access to emergency housing or other public services. Without identification, one cannot travel, register for school or access many services that are essential to function in society. Many states do not allow trans people to update their identification documents to match their gender identity. Others require evidence of medical transition – which can be prohibitively expensive and is not something that all trans people want – as well as fees for processing new identity documents, which may make them unaffordable for some members of the trans community. While advocates continue working to remedy these disparities, change cannot come too soon for trans people. **Visibility** – especially positive images of trans people in the media and society – continues to make a critical difference for us; but visibility is not enough and can come with real risks to our safety, especially for those of us who are part of other marginalized communities. That is why the Human Rights Campaign is committed to continuing to support and advocate for the trans community, so that the trans Americans who are and will become your friends, neighbors, coworkers and family members have an equal chance to succeed and thrive." <https://www.hrc.org/resources/understanding-the-transgender-community> Thank you for taking the time to learn about the issues that matter to your constituents and for supporting the rights of every person in Missouri, including transgender students. Please vote against HJR53. Cindy Beecher PFLAG Springfield Board of Directors



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: COLLINS F CHETWIN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: cfchetwin@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 1:29 PM
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I could speak to the harmful nature of this bill, how detrimental it is to single out groups of children and prevent them from playing sports. I'm sure you've received plenty of testimony to that effect. Instead, I'll tell you a story. Back in 2015, my hometown was caught up in a fight over transgender rights. City Council had decided to add us to the nondiscrimination ordinance, and some local religious groups led an effort to repeal that decision. For three months, between the repeal petition and the vote, Springfield became a battleground between campaigns for and against the ordinance. In our fight to keep it, we called voters every day to talk about their beliefs on Transgender people. It was painful work. But we persevered. During the campaign I saw commercials comparing people like me to sexual predators. My neighbors received mail which exploited their fears to paint an unrealistic and horrifying image of Transgender people. Public votes on this subject are an opportunity for bullies to pick on vulnerable people. That's what happened in my hometown, and that's what would happen statewide if this bill passed. In the end, hate won out and I'm no longer protected against discrimination. I don't regret the work I did trying to fight the repeal, but it would have saved me and my community a lot of pain if our human rights weren't brought up for a vote in the first place.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: COREY HYMAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DAN N		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: r.picker@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 4:24 PM
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My name is Dan. I am 9 years old. I like playing basketball and soccer with my friends. If this bill passes, I'm pretty sure I would just stop playing sports. I don't want to play on the girls' team because I'm not a girl. I also don't want to stop playing sports. I like sports. I also like playing with my friends. Please vote no on this bill and thank you for taking the time to listen to my opinion.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DANIEL S BOGARD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: dsbogard@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2021 2:44 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DANIELLE MEERT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DEBI JACKSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: debi@debi-jackson.com	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 2/25/2021 5:28 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I'm the mother of a 13-year-old transgender girl. I first want to ask you to take a moment to consider how it must feel for anyone in the trans community to see their bodies openly discussed by others and to once again have their basic rights debated in public forums. I guarantee that you would not want to have the fairness of your existence challenged or to have legislation pending that will make it more difficult to exist in your community. This is why these bills are so damaging and should be immediately killed before moving through the legislative process. My daughter and kids like her are who are being targeted by these bills all across the country. Because she was affirmed at a young age and socially transitioned before puberty, she was able to start taking puberty blockers to prevent her body from developing with testosterone. That would have devastated her physically (requiring long, painful, expensive surgeries later to correct) and mentally. **SIDE NOTE: this is why the the bills that want to ban this life-saving, evidence-based, best practice care for transgender adolescents and teens should also be immediately stopped.** For young people like my daughter, there is zero physical advantage in sports. For those who haven't been able to access blockers at the onset of puberty and did start to develop with testosterone, beginning blockers and estrogen even in the later teen years will negate any supposed advantage — even what people like to refer to as "legacy advantages". If you have dense bone structure but lose muscle mass and your ability to process high volumes of oxygen, it's going to be harder to move that heavy body around, isn't? So not really much of an advantage simply because you are bigger. Cis people (those whose sex at birth and gender identity are aligned) — male and female — come in all shapes and sizes, develop at different rates during pubertal years, and have varying degrees of athleticism. But we don't seem to care if a 100 pound boy has to face a 200 pound boy of the same age in a sport. And we allow girls to participate in boys' sports like football or wrestling, so we can eliminate the argument that a cis girl's physical safety is at risk if her opponent is a transgender girl. But we should also remember that participating in sports it isn't always about winning. Sports help with mental health, teaches teamwork, provides camaraderie with others, teaches discipline and goal-setting. It opens doors to friendship, connection, and community with others. And trans kids deserve to experience all of those benefits, too. These are all life skills that can help a student during their educational years but also set them up for success as adults. Millions of students participate in sports every year and don't take home a trophy or secure a scholarship. But they all still win, because they leave the field or leave the court having learned about themselves and having a shared experience with their peers. For a trans kid who has had mental health struggles just to figure out who they are, might have been bullied or have had a hard time fitting in, denying them the chance to have those positive experiences and enjoy the mental health benefits that go along with them is just cruel. It's especially disheartening that some of the people who support these bills also demanded that kids have access to sports during the COVID-19 pandemic as a mental health benefit, but are willing to deny that opportunity to a child because they happen to be transgender. Forcing someone a young

athlete to choose between living authentically or playing a sport would be a new cruel form of conversion therapy and would benefit no one. It should also be noted that a recently published study found that overall participation in girls' sports declines in states with trans-restrictive sports policies. Think about it...a cisgender girl that is too tall, too muscular, or even just too good can be questioned about her gender along with the few (if any) trans girls participating. These restrictive policies meant to support girls are actually quite sexist because they are based in the notion that some girls are too good at their sport. If Missouri legislators really want to protect girls' and women's sports, they would pursue passing legislation that models the inclusive policies from one of the 16 states that have integrated trans girls into sports for years with no problems. AND they would actually invest money and resources into those athletic programs. Here are some helpful links and studies: <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/lgbtq-rights/reports/2021/02/08/495502/fair-play/> <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5357259/> <https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/1e6a/bd2c1e03ba88e9ac8da94ea1d69ff3f4878a.pdf> <https://bjsm.bmj.com/content/39/10/695> <https://www.sportsci.org/2016/WCPASabstracts/ID-1699.pdf> https://www.womenssportsfoundation.org/articles_and_report/chasing-equity-the-triumphs-challenges-and-opportunities-in-sports-for-girls-and-women/



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DOREE BARDES		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: wasabihands@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 12:53 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Representative Basye is sadly misinformed on transgender science and issues. There is no earthly reason why trans athletes should be barred from participating in sports aligned to the gender they identify as. This is just a knee-jerk reaction to something that makes the misinformed uncomfortable, but there's no reason the students should be penalized for that, or forced to live anything other than their truth.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DORISSA C. TYNDALL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: dorissaclaire@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 7:34 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I recently turned 18 and I've lived in Missouri all my life. Playing volleyball with other girls my age really helped cultivate a sense of belonging and camaraderie during middle school, which is a really hard time to be a girl. As a young person learning to manage my own time, participation in sports encourages the importance of regular exercise, responsibility, and other social skills. I don't want any other girls in Missouri to miss out on this. The benefits of sports for young people extend far beyond winning competitions, and I don't think it's fair to exclude trans girls from this valuable experience.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ELI KEAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: elikeanphd@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 8:32 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

My name is Eli Kean and I am a resident of Columbia, Missouri. I strongly oppose HJR 53 and encourage legislators to vote against it. Just like the many other anti-trans bills currently proposed, this amendment operates under the guise of keeping young girls protected when in actuality it would cause severe harm to young trans girls and all trans youth. There is no evidence that trans girls competing in school sports have caused safety concerns for other girls. There is no evidence that trans girls have a disproportionate advantage over other girls. Girls and boys are incredibly diverse in their physiology, muscle mass, and strength; the genitals they were born with do not determine these things, nor does the M or F on their birth certificate. There is already policy guidance for allowing trans youth to participate in athletics and it is completely unnecessary to amend the state constitution in this way. Trans youth already struggle with depression, anxiety, and isolation due to bias and ignorance about gender diversity. A constitutional amendment that would prevent them from participating in sports would further dehumanize and isolate an already vulnerable population. It would be devastating for Missouri to constitutionally prohibit young people being active, playing on a team, meeting new people, and learning skills like strategizing and decision-making. If we want our young people to thrive, we should not prevent them from playing sports just because they are transgender. Please, vote against this bill. Thank you.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ELLE HOLLRAH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: krhollrah@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 12:29 PM
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I oppose in the name of equal rights for transgender students whom I love.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ELLEN UNDERKOFFLER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: underkoffler.ellen@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 1:29 PM
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As a young girl I was athletic and there were not softball programs for girls (1970's). So, baseball was the only option except they were not letting girls play. So, a group of parents, including mine, sued the local league. There was some backlash about how girls shouldn't play sports, and how girls and boys shouldn't play on the same team. However, the suit was successful, and I got to play baseball. I don't remember ever being harassed or treated any differently by the boys I played with. I got to run, play, have fun and be the athlete I was and be treated as an equal by my teammates. So here we are, about 50 years later, and it still seems like the problem is with narrow minded parents that forget the goal of sports for young kids is to have fun, get exercise, and learn teamwork and respect for each other. Please let kids be kids and let's encourage kids to participate in activities instead of putting up barriers to stop them.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ERIN GRAY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: erineileengray@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/25/2021 8:12 PM
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Our family is completely opposed to the blatant discrimination, targeted aggression and oppression of LGTB and especially transgender students and their families. We have absolutely no issue with our daughter competing in the same sport as her transgender classmate. This legislature should furthermore not be invading the privacy of any of transgender or LGTB students and their families. This legislature should be doing more to support these beautiful families. I care about my child's friends and their success, I don't care what their birth certificate says. This bill is awful. HJR 53 -- INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC CONTESTSPONSOR: BasyeUpon voter approval this proposed Constitutional amendment requires that students who participate in sex-separated athletic contests only be allowed to participate in those for the biological sex found on the student's birth certificate. This bill is the same as HJR 56 (2021) and similar to HJR 82(2020).



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: GABRIELLE STANLEY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: gas59q@mail.umkc.edu	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 8:41 AM
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The government regulating our bodies is wrong. Period. These are CHILDREN we're talking about- kids who didn't vote for you. They can not consent to having their genitals checked. They just want to play with their friends. This is a waste of taxpayer dollars, something that Republicans supposedly hate. Kill this unnecessary bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GAIL WECHSLER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: gailwechsler@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 3:46 PM
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I strongly oppose HJR 53, which would propose a constitutional amendment to prevent transgender students from participating in athletic competitions based on their gender identity. This bill shows profound disrespect to young people in our state who identify as transgender. It amounts to pure and simple discrimination. There already is a crisis in our state and country related to transgender youth and hate crimes and high rates of suicide. Let's not institutionalize this hate and discrimination in our state. Surely there are more important issues facing our state, such as recovery from the pandemic, than otherizing young people who identify as transgender.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: GARRETT WEBB		PHONE NUMBER: 219-229-1104	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI CHAPTER, AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS		TITLE: REGISTERED LOBBYIST	
ADDRESS: 710A SOULARD STREET			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63104
EMAIL: webb@coestrategies.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 3:47 PM	

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Testimony on behalf of the Missouri Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics: On behalf of more than 1,000 physicians, trainees and pediatric providers who are members of the Missouri Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics, we write to you today to express our concerns with House Joint Resolution 53. This resolution seeks to solve a problem that does not exist in our state. The Missouri State High School Activities Association already has policy in place for transgender youth athletes. 1 Attempting to anticipate future harm is both unnecessary and fails to approach diversity with creativity and a gender-affirming nonjudgmental approach. 1.8% of youth identify as transgender, and a further 1.6% are questioning or gender diverse. 2 It is beneficial for children's physical, social and emotional development to be physically active and play sports with their peers. Transgender kids can have difficulty feeling safe at school and are at risk for depression and suicide – over 50% have suicidal thoughts and one third attempt suicide. These risks are highest when they experience bullying or exclusion. Forcing transgender children to play on teams according to their sex assigned at birth, rather than the gender they live in, undermines their ability to belong to their community. We know that children allowed to affirm their gender identity by living with the name and pronouns that are true for them have a lower risk of suicide than those prevented from doing so. Before puberty, biological boys and girls do not differ in height, muscle and bone mass. Children enter puberty between ages 8 and 14, and generally don't gain adult muscle mass until age 18. After puberty is complete, there are certainly provable differences in athletes who have gone through puberty in the gender of their birth. However, there is not sufficient evidence that children assigned male at birth, who have begun gender transition to female without going through male puberty (which is best practice per current national medical guidelines), truly have advantages in athletics. 3 In addition, this bill is difficult to implement and relies on determination of biologic sex that in some cases is not straightforward: For example, would the state like to get involved in making determinations for intersex (biologically ambiguous) athletes, for whom medicine does not clearly classify as biologically male or female? Of note, an almost identical bill was approved last year by the Idaho Legislature, but has since been blocked by a federal judge. Judge David Nye wrote: "The State has not identified a legitimate interest served by the Act that the preexisting rules in Idaho did not already address, other than an invalid interest of excluding transgender women and girls from women's sports entirely, regardless of their physiological characteristics." 4 The vast majority of the people this law will harm are school kids who just want to play on a sports team. Attempting to exclude them causes unnecessary harm to their overall physical, mental, and social well-being. MO AAP asks members of the committee to consider the mental health of our kids, and the unintended consequences of this joint resolution. Please feel free to follow up with any questions regarding our concerns. Sincerely, Thuylinh Pham, MD Legislative Committee Chair, Missouri Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics 1 Missouri High School Activities Association.

Official Handbook. 2020: 92:142. Accessed on 3/2/2021.<https://www.mshsaa.org/resources/pdf/Official%20Handbook.pdf>2

Johns M, Lowry R, Andrzejewski J, et al. Transgender identity and experiences of violence victimization, substance use, suicide risk, and sexual risk behaviors among high school students—19 states and large urban school districts, 2017. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep.* 2019;68(3):67-713

Jones B, Arcelus J, Bouman W, Haycraft E. Sport and Transgender People: A Systematic Review of the Literature Relating to Sport Participation and Competitive Sport Policies. *Sports Med.* 2017; 47(4): 701–716.

4 “Federal judge says Idaho cannot ban transgender athletes from women’s sports teams”. CNN. <https://www.cnn.com/2020/08/18/us/idaho-transgender-athletes-ban-blocked/index.html> Accessed Jan 9 2021.

5 Rafferty, J, AAP Committee on Psychosocial Aspects of Child and Family Health, AAP Committee on Adolescence, and AAP Section on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Health and Wellness. *Pediatrics.* 2018; 142(4); 2018- 2162.

6 Logan, K, Cuff, S, and the AAP Council on Sports Medicine and Fitness. Organized Sports for Children, Preadolescents, and Adolescents. *Pediatrics.* 2019; 143(6); 2019-0997. Page 2

The AAP believes that “any discrimination based on gender identity or expression, real or perceived, is damaging to the socioemotional health of children, families, and society.”

5 Furthermore, the AAP recommends that “involvement in sports, particularly as a member of a sports team, is an integral way for youth to develop psychosocially and help form their social identity” and that “sports participation helps athletes develop self-esteem, correlates positively with overall mental health, and appears to have a protective effect against suicide.”

6



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: GIUSEPPE PIOVE HOLLIS BORRELLI		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: joey@borrelli.org	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2021 2:55 PM	
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Hi. My name is Joey Borrelli. I am a political science undergraduate born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri. I am also transgender. I oppose HJR 53. All people are deserving of equitable access to public services, including the extracurriculars in our public schools. I find it really bizarre that we are discussing whether or not to allow all children to play and enjoy the sports that they love. No matter your beliefs, one should always approach children with love, compassion, and support: of course all children should be able to play sports. Our trans children belong in all the spaces that our non-trans children do because, most importantly, they are all children wanting to play a game.

I hope that you all will listen to the person about whom you are legislating. I transitioned here in Missouri as a minor. I was a trans high school student, and I am now a trans college student. All of us have seen first-hand the positives that playing sports brings into our lives and the lives of our loved ones. Playing sports is an invaluable piece of a wellness toolkit: sports provide physical activity, fun, and an opportunity to make and enjoy the company of friends. Many students find new confidence and passion when they join school sports teams. For example, my younger brother's life has almost always revolved completely around sports. He has played every single sport our schools have had to offer, and he has solidified many of his closest friendships this way. Importantly, he plays alongside his transgender classmates and friends because he would never dream of arbitrarily excluding anyone from the passtime that he loves. Similarly, one of my closest high school friends was a superhero who balanced soccer practice with directing plays after school because of her love for soccer. She was also the one that held my hand when she brought me to my first trans youth meeting. And I was the one who went to her last high school soccer game and made a poster to cheer her on. Despite not being an avid sports player, there is a lot of love in my trans life that I can dedicate to sports. There is no reason to deprive any person from this love, or the opportunities sports offer to build friendships, develop self-confidence, and learn new skills. Forcing trans children onto teams based upon their sex assigned at birth instead of their real, lived gender is effectively a prohibition on trans participation in sports. I would never play on a women's team, despite what is wrongly indicated by my Missouri birth certificate. Here at college and back in Missouri, I use men's facilities, and participate on men's teams, which makes a lot more sense and makes me feel much safer. Most trans students feel the same way, and prohibiting us from extracurriculars makes us even more susceptible to harassment and isolation. What are we to make of Missouri's anti-bullying commitment if the state is the one doing the bullying? Finally, it is important to note that there is no realistic way to enforce transgender exclusion in sports, as there is no one way to look or be transgender. Students have always played alongside their transgender peers. Every legislator reading this has shared facilities with a transgender person. I am a man, and without revealing my gender history to you, you would never know that others didn't always see me as a man. I worry about this in the school context: who is the authority on deciding which of our children can play? At the end of the day, this legislation is about whether or not all children

should be able to play sports-- games that provide community, physical fun, and endless learning opportunities. No child should ever feel unwelcome on sports teams, at school, or in general extracurriculars, and adults who do not know them should not be able to ban them from routine childhood activities. When we instead show our children love and support, we show them that they can succeed just by being who they are. My parents met my transition with all the love in the world, and today I am an honors university student looking towards a future in law. HJR 53 will clearly cause trauma to our children and our Missouri families by prohibiting children from playing the games meant for them. For all of these reasons, I ask you to keep love in your hearts and vote against HJR 53. Thank you for listening.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GREG MATHISON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mathman80@prodigy.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 2:07 PM
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I am an educator, former teacher, coach, and parent. I believe the MSHSAA by-laws already address and follow guidelines as set forth by the US Olympic Committee and the NCAA. The current guidelines are in place that honor students as well as ensures equitable competition.



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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: HALLEY MOORE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: halley.is.me@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 11:39 AM
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I strongly oppose this.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: HELEN ANDERSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: andersonhelen228@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 10:29 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

My name is Helen Anderson and I reside in Weldon Spring Missouri. I am testifying today in opposition to HJR 53. I write to you today as the Mother of a Trans man, as an American Citizen and as a scientist. This proposed amendment to the Missouri Constitution is offensive as the Mother of a Trans person, concerning as an American citizen and disappointing as a person of science. I am a Mother who like all Mothers wants the best for my child. As a Mother of a child who is not "normal" I recognize that humans have limits of tolerance that ignorance is the norm and that for my child being different will always be burden a fight to be viewed as an equal. But I am a Mother who believes in inclusion for all. I believe that we as adults must set the example and that we need to teach tolerance through example and empathy. My child grew up never fitting in not because he did not have the ability but because his outward appearance a mistake at birth was a barrier to his participation. The system did not see his needs would not recognize his pain nor acknowledge his existence. He was invisible hidden in the shell of the girl's body he was forced by birth to inhabit. Categorized, forced into roles that he did not fit and denied the right to be the individual he has known since early childhood he was born to be. My son Elliott was forced to be a girl by the system, a cruel dehumanizing experience all because of the mistake at birth of him being placed in an outwardly female body. The pressure of a society that will not allow you to be your natural self-led to depression and ultimately to attempted suicide. Despite the support of a loving and accepting family we could not counter the ever-present pressure of judgement, forced role alignment and a world of outdated ignorance that kept my trans son from having a childhood that allowed him to openly explore his strengths and interest in a supporting environment. As leaders of this country do not seek to limit our children of openly being the strong confident unique humans that will grow to be the next citizens and leaders of this nation. Do not seek to limit our children Do not ask out children to not be honest in who they are. Do not limit your fellow citizens be their champion and do not support this Bill.I am a proud American who believes this country is an Exceptional Nation. Our constitutional democracy derives its foundation principles from 2 key documents the Declaration of Independence and the US Constitution. The words I believe most clearly define what the founders of this nation sought to create through their sacrifice is the words form the Declaration of Independence- "We hold these truths to be self -evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed....HR53 desecrates the very tenet upon which this country was founded. The language of this Senate Bill desecrates the very foundation upon which our country is built. It seeks to deny trans children their rights of open and equal participation and singles them out as a class of individual who are judged not by their talent or capabilities but by their circumstances of birth. Clearly this is nothing but discrimination in one of its ugliest forms as it seeks to harm those most innocent who have no political power and for whom the

message of discrimination will forever send the message that unlike normal children, a trans child is not equal and their rights do not matter. How shameful that as leaders of this great country you would seek to diminish the rights of children. As a scientist I choose to look at the data and follow the science. HR 53 seeks to forbid trans children from competing in school sports based on their true gender and forces them to align with a role that is not correct for them. I liken this to other similar misguided attempts of exclusion due to physical differences that are borne out of ignorance. There is no scientific reasoning that supports any difference in treatment or separation of individuals based on sexual organs prior to puberty and following puberty abilities of the individual to play a sport should be judged on each person's skill. As another historically marginalized group women have demonstrated abilities to compete on the field are not specific to one's genitalia. In 2014 Mo Davis captured the hearts and attention of all who watched the Little League World Series. As a pitcher for the Philadelphia team, she became the first female to both win a game at the LLWS and pitch a shutout. She also became a symbol to female baseball players everywhere that separation based on sex in youth sports was not valid. Not only did she compete she won. Sports is based on ability, the science of body mechanics and commitment of the individual to succeed. We do not need laws that discriminate to provide for a positive environment of competition in school sports. We need laws that protect the right for all children to compete on equal terms that enable each individual to be respected for their abilities and determination to succeed. Is this not what sports teaches us that if you develop skills, work hard and give your all you will succeed. These are reasons to celebrate not to discriminate. Demonstrate to all children trans, cis and non-binary that you are respected for who you are and what you contribute vote no on HJR 53.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: HOWARD HUTTON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: howardhutton@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 10:39 PM
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Regarding the Transgender Athlete Un-constitutional Ban Please forgive me, this statement is still under construction, but I have to send what I have in hopes that it will help you move on to more important issues. I watched a young depressed and suicidal, closeted, Transgender female go from having to leave their Scout Troop and not doing well in school, to transitioning, changing their name, being accepted into a new school and the sport they love as the gender they are, and then blowing away their ACT's and being accepted into a prestigious Institute of Technology. They didn't ruin High school girl's sports. Their acceptance by their parents, school, and sports team likely saved their life and gave society a healthy human being who is going to make life better for all of us by what they are able to accomplish for a society that treats them well. Acceptance of LGBTQ kids, as who they say they are, saves their lives. Acceptance is their key to survival and it wins society healthy productive citizens. The attempted suicide rate of LGBTQ kids, when not accepted by parents and society, is as high as 74% for Black Transgender females. The rates for attempted suicide come down as we peel away multiple intersectional identities but at each drop it is the relationship of acceptance that the individual feels that improves their life, their outcomes, and their benefit to society.1. **WHO WILL THIS BAN HURT?:A.** First and foremost this ban will hurt young women who don't fit someone's preconceived notion of what a young female athlete is supposed to look like. There are far more young women who look a little too masculine than there are young Transgender females in sports. The Transphobic community will malign young women as too masculine for having an adam's apple, too strong, too large, too fast, too small of hip, too tall, too square of facial feature, too little of breast. They will see a bulge where none exists. They will become the crotch police. People will be waging whispering campaigns and trying to get pictures of our daughters in compromised settings so they can find out what their genitals look like. They will be demanding blood tests to check everyone's testosterone and hormone levels. This ban will overwhelmingly hurt our daughters by further scrutinizing and policing their bodies; making them even more dangerously self conscious and afraid of how others look at them. It may also lead to the same violence against them that Transgender individuals still endure.B. This ban will devastate the few Transgender and Intersex female athletes consistent, insistent, and persistent enough to know they are female and then brave enough to still want to participate where there is a social landmine at every interaction. The Transgender children that knew they were a different gender from the one they were assigned at birth early enough and stealth enough to socially transition and play in the sports of their gender really very well fit the gender to which they identify. Especially with a little help from puberty blockers. As a few Transgender individuals are already playing sports, this bill is likely to out them to the world. The violence and discrimination against Transgender people and especially Transgender females is documented to be very high. This Amendment is likely to get Transgender individuals outed, beaten-up, and killed.C. This ban will hurt the few Transgender and Intersex male athletes who just want to play

the same sport that their fellow brothers are playing. This bill will make transgender males compete with females. We are worried about a very few Transgender females ruining girls sports but we are also going to penalize all the Transgender males and Intersex males that don't fit the gender assigned at birth category.D.

This bill will hurt Intersex/Transgender boys and girls that were given vagina-plastys in childhood because society was so hell bent on assigning them a gender right away. Doctors mistakenly turned these boy's micro penises into vaginas in childhood. We can't penalize them again by keeping them from participating in sports for being Transgender because of a Doctor's mistake.2.

WHAT PROBLEM WILL THIS BAN SOLVE?:This ban is a remedy for a non-existent problem. Transgender females aren't eviscerating women's sports. Trans women are already dispersed ever so rarely throughout women's sports and very few in High School sports. Only since people have been more accepting and brave enough to come out have we even been able to see a very very few Transgender people win a few trophies. Shouldn't they get to play with their peers and win too? If there were more winners we could say we were treating them fairly, thoughtfully, and compassionately. There are so few Transgender athletes. Because of discrimination and getting outed the average age of a Transgender person that is finally brave enough to come-out is now about 19. And though that is younger than ever before, it's still far to old to be a problem for High School sports. Transgender folks are unlikely to come out much younger than 19 because of the nature of the Transgender journey. - Talk about this...- The wide world of sports advantages...- Transgender people aren't winning trophies at rates far exceeding their percent of population even in female sports. In fact, as far as I can tell, it's not even close to their percent of the population.-There are very few Transgender athletes-Transgender people of even liberal parents rarely come out early because of both acculturation and stigma.3.

WHAT DOES SEX ASSIGNED AT BIRTH MEAN?:Where does a truly ambiguous Intersex person fit under the term 'sex assigned at birth'? They fit with their gender that they come to figure out as they grow and develop. A gender that is often different than many Doctors have wanted to construct at birth. Through no fault of their own many Intersex boys with micro-penises and macro clitorises were given vagina-plastys because society was so eager to place people into a gender binary and because it was "easier to make a whole than a pole". The use of the term 'sex assigned at birth' in this amendment means little more than the Doctor checked the infant's crotch for genitalia. This crotch check says very little about a person's sex and even less about their gender. Sure, it has some predictive power but a crotch check can't tell us about the XX males and XY females – a reversal of the usual chromosome expressions. It doesn't tell us about androgen insensitivity, aneuploidy, Turner's syndrome, or Klinefelter's syndrome. It doesn't tell us about males, by sex and gender, who will be mistaken throughout their lives as females and it doesn't tell us about females, by sex and gender, who will be mistaken throughout their lives as males. It doesn't tell us about the several ways someone can be Intersex and not even know it. It doesn't tell us about the high testosterone females and the low testosterone males. It doesn't tell us about the gender of brains, which through spectrometry, now show us greater similarity between Transgender females and Cis females than between Transgender females and Cis males. I find it uncanny that color blindness, a trait that effects more males than females, is prevalent among the many Trans men I know.For the purpose of self-segregating society by male and female traits we overwhelmingly use the overall genetic composition, as diverse as it is, of gender not sex. And the final recognition of gender is in the brain not the genitals. There is an enormous range of being Male and Female and Non-Binary, Transgender, and Intersex fall into that range. Especially with a little help from our healthcare specialists.4.

WHAT ARE CONSTITUTIONS FOR ?:To use the constitution to deny some females equal access and rights, to limit instead of protect the liberty of already marginalized individuals, is a horrible misuse of the Constitution. It was wrong with the Same Sex marriage ban and it's wrong now. Constitutions are for protecting and broadening liberty not limiting it.5. What will this illegal and discriminatory ban cost us in human life and legal fees?



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ISAAC GEHRKE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: isaacgehrke@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 9:36 AM
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I oppose this.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ISABEL HOLLAND		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: isabelholland14@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 7:45 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JACQUELINE HARPER-GRUBB		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: jacquelineg17@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 7:58 AM
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Mr. Chairman and committee members, thank you for hearing me today. My name is Jacqueline Harper-Grubb, I am a transgender woman from Springfield, MO, and I grew up in Dexter, MO. I have been a sports official for the last 17 years and I am here in opposition to HJR 53. Participation in sports at the school level is a vital piece of a students overall educational experience. As someone who has been around sports for the majority of my life I have seen what sports do for our kids. I value the opportunity our education system provides to students. But HJR 53 removes this opportunity for kids like my child to experience all the joy and life lessons school sports offers. Transgender kids deserve the same opportunities to learn these skills. When we tell transgender girls that they can't play girls sports or transgender boys can't play boys sports then they miss out on these experiences and life lessons. I have been a certified official of baseball, softball, basketball, volleyball, and soccer over the last 17 years. I also played baseball when I was a kid and I have coached my oldest kid's softball team. I have personally seen players who were shy, unsure, or scared really open up as they have been able to play, be part of a team, and get the socializing time with their peers. When I played sports as a kid I built social bonds with people and created life long friendships, and as a coach I have watched players improve their social skills from participating on a team. Transgender students thrive when they are treated with respect and dignity. When transgender athletes are excluded from teams that align with their gender then they are excluded altogether. . There is no evidence that transgender girls are any faster, stronger, or bigger than other girls. I have actually been a part of games as a referee in which girls teams blowout boys teams of the same age group. I understand that this legislation is filed out of fear that transgender students are somehow different from their peers. As a sports official I can attest that this fear isn't real. Recently I refereed a U13 futsal game that involved a team of all girls against a team of seven boys and two girls. This game ended in a blowout victory for the all girls team. This is an occurrence that actually happens time and time again. Putting restrictions like this into our state constitution would be incredibly harmful to transgender athletes. When policies single out transgender students in sports it inevitable isolates transgender youth from participating in the entire school experience with friends and peers. As a parent my oldest child and I have discussed their participation in various sports, but they have been timid and afraid to take that leap. HJR 53 and bills like it are making their fears worse and causing them to pull away from sports. . As a sports official of almost two decades, I can attest that HJR 53 is a horrible solution that would harm all our Missouri students, for a problem that simply does not exist. I urge the members of the committee to vote "no" on HJR 53. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JAMES ALEXANDER CAYLEY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: jamiecayley@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 11:04 AM	
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Dear Honorable Committee Members, My name is Jamie Cayley and I am a transgender man living in Greene County. I would like to express my opposition to HJR 53, which would severely affect trans youth's ability to participate in sports. Transgender youth are a highly vulnerable population. The 2015 US Transgender Survey is the most comprehensive survey about US-based transgender people to date, including 27,715 respondents. Some notable statistics from this survey include: 39% of respondents were experiencing serious psychological distress, compared to 5% in the US population; 40% have attempted suicide at some point in their life compared to 4.6% in the US population, and 46% reported being verbally harassed in the prior year. Out of the respondents who reported suicide attempts, 34% reported their first suicide attempt was at age 13 or younger, and 39% reported their first attempt was when they were between 14 and 17 years old. When I was younger, I joined a taekwondo student organization, which had a significant positive effect in my life – for the first time in a very long time I felt a sense of belonging, acceptance, and I started to build friendships. However, that all changed as tournaments approached, and I was told that since my birth certificate said I was female I was not allowed to compete as male, and since I had been receiving medical treatment for a few years I was also not allowed to compete as female (not that I would have wanted to). As the news spread around the team, I suddenly became an outcast and lost the majority of the positive relationships I had in my life, alongside the ability to participate in an activity that significantly improved both my physical and mental health. Youth sports often play a significant role in young people's development, teaching them sportsmanship, leadership, confidence, self-discipline, and self-respect. Nearly 7 in 10 (69.1%) young people aged 6-12 participate in sports, and transgender kids deserve the same chance to participate in sports and build a sense of belonging with their peers. The high rates of trauma and discrimination experienced by trans youth should also be taken into consideration, as studies show that one of the most effective treatments for child trauma victims is to increase the quantity and quality of relationships in the child's life. In conclusion, HJR 53 would be a very harmful bill that would significantly impact transgender people's ability to engage in sports, further decreasing trans people's sense of safety and belonging, with potentially deadly consequences. 17 states have passed legislation that supports full inclusion of trans youth in sport teams consistent with their gender identity, 20 states have athletic inclusion policies that allow young transgender athletes to participate alongside their peers, and the NCAA has inclusive policies that allow transgender men and women to fully participate in sports respecting their gender identity. Instead of HJR 53, Missouri should follow the example set by other states and organizations and strive to protect transgender people's right to participate. Thankful for your time, Jamie Cayley Graduate Student in Forensic Child Psychology, Student Mental Health, Family and Community Support, Statistics and Research Design, and Mathematics Missouri State University



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WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JAMES THUROW		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JAMINDA HOLMES		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jamindajh@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 10:24 AM
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All Missouri students should have the freedom to participate in sports, in the gender that they identify with. Youth will not be harmed or disadvantaged by competing along side trans classmates.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JAY-MARIE HILL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jhill@aclu-mo.org	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 12:22 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Chairman Basye Emerging Issues Committee March 3, 2021 Dear Committee Members, My name is Jay-Marie Hill. I am the Trans Justice Organizer at the ACLU of Missouri, and a former educator and young athlete. On behalf of our 15,000 members statewide and the approximately 25,000 Trans and Gender-Expansive people living in Missouri, I would like to go on record in opposition to this bill, HJR 53. Missouri's laws currently ensure the right to equal participation for people of all genders. The problem with this bill is that it calls to exclude students who happen to be trans for something they cannot control. When I was in middle school, there was a young Black trans girl who was often made fun of for her gender expression. From the school bus, to the classroom, the ways she was taunted in and out of all school spaces was nothing I wish on my worst enemy. Importantly, it could have been resolved with a simple effort of inclusion by the administration. Without a climate of those who committed to working to support and make her feel welcome, that young student transferred away within two years and was never able to feel safe on campus let alone participate in group activities, despite her desire to simply attend school and do her best like the rest of us. As a young person who also felt dysphoria about my body, it would have put me at ease if I had seen her treated with love and respect. We might have even been able to play on the same team, which I would have loved because she was fun to be around and a great student influence! Instead, I witnessed early what the consequences were for being gender-expansive. From then on, I learned to force down a part of myself so that no one would be disrupted by the gender roles that felt most natural to me. I don't know who I would be without sports and there is no reason young people who happen to be trans should be excluded from these experiences. For students in general, having the opportunity to participate in sports results in positive outcomes—better grades, greater homework completion, higher educational and occupational aspirations, and improved self-esteem. In a dynamic where schools are already difficult for trans students, they should not be further singled out as this bill does. They are simply trying to participate and grow like any other student. As a former educator, I know the realities of trying to support students who feel or are bullied for being different. Schools should be places where you feel safe to learn and grow, not places you dread being because of how adults project their fears and beliefs onto you. If you go into most schools these days, students know how to and often FULLY support their trans and non-binary peers - its the adults who have a hard time with it. The truth is, no bill should make a special exception to discriminate against any Missouri student, and it certainly should not be placed to a statewide vote. I know you think you're protecting students with this bill, but I promise that it will do more harm than good. Young people do not need protecting, they need encouragement - to try their best and learn from others. Trans folks are always just trying to do their best and there is no reason to exclude us from the opportunity to grow as part of a team. Each of our students deserves to feel and welcome at school. Time and time again in our history we've confronted this question of who to include and who to exclude. Each time, we've recognized, often after painful,

shameful, avoidable acts of discrimination, that exclusion is not in the best interest of our society or of our country. Gender may be a growth edge for many of you but it's important to approach this issue with confidence and a desire for understanding, rather than targeting trans people because of unnecessary fear. In closing, I urge you all to vote against this bill. Keep Missouri safe for all students. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Jay-Marie Hill
Trans Justice Organizer
ACLU of Missouri



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JAY-MARIE HILL		PHONE NUMBER: 510-415-2722	
REPRESENTING: AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION OF MISSOURI		TITLE: TRANS JUSTICE ORGANIZER	
ADDRESS: 906 OLIVE ST			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63101
EMAIL: jhill@aclu-mo.org		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 4:20 PM

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Chairman Basye Emerging Issues Committee March 3, 2021 Dear Committee Members, My name is Jay-Marie Hill. I am the Trans Justice Organizer at the ACLU of Missouri, and a former educator and young athlete. On behalf of our 15,000 members statewide and the approximately 25,000 Trans and Gender-Expansive people living in Missouri, I would like to go on record in opposition to this bill, HJR 53. Missouri's laws currently ensure the right to equal participation for people of all genders. The problem with this bill is that it calls to exclude students who happen to be trans for something they cannot control. When I was in middle school, there was a young Black trans girl who was often made fun of for her gender expression. From the school bus, to the classroom, the ways she was taunted in and out of all school spaces was nothing I wish on my worst enemy. Importantly, it could have been resolved with a simple effort of inclusion by the administration. Without a climate of those who committed to working to support and make her feel welcome, that young student transferred away within two years and was never able to feel safe on campus let alone participate in group activities, despite her desire to simply attend school and do her best like the rest of us. As a young person who also felt dysphoria about my body, it would have put me at ease if I had seen her treated with love and respect. We might have even been able to play on the same team, which I would have loved because she was fun to be around and a great student influence! Instead, I witnessed early what the consequences were for being gender-expansive. From then on, I learned to force down a part of myself so that no one would be disrupted by the gender expression that felt most natural to me. I don't know who I would be without sports and there is no reason young people who happen to be trans should be excluded from these experiences. For students in general, having the opportunity to participate in sports results in positive outcomes—better grades, greater homework completion, higher educational and occupational aspirations, and improved self-esteem. In a dynamic where schools are already difficult for trans students, they should not be further singled out as this bill does. They are simply trying to participate and grow like any other student. As a former educator, I know the realities of trying to support students who feel or are bullied for being different. Schools should be places where you feel safe to learn and grow, not places you dread being because of how adults project their fears and beliefs onto you. If you go into most schools these days, students know how to and often FULLY support their trans and non-binary peers - its the adults who have a hard time with it. The truth is, no bill should make a special exception to discriminate against any Missouri student, and it certainly should not be placed to a statewide vote. I know you think you're protecting students with this bill, but I promise that it will do more harm than good. Young people do not need protecting, they need encouragement - to try their best and learn from others. Trans folks are always just trying to do their best and there is no reason to exclude us from the opportunity to grow as part of a team. Each of our students deserves to feel and welcome at school. Time and time again in our history we've confronted

this question of who to include and who to exclude. Each time, we've recognized, often after painful, shameful, avoidable acts of discrimination, that exclusion is not in the best interest of our society or of our country. Gender may be a growth edge for many of you but it's important to approach this issue with confidence and a desire for understanding, rather than targeting trans people because of unnecessary fear. In closing, I urge you all to vote against this bill. Keep Missouri safe for all students. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Jay-Marie Hill Trans Justice Organizer ACLU of Missouri



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WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JAYME SWEERE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jaymesweere@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 10:08 PM
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As a former female student athlete I write in to inform that I cannot imagine if the opportunity to participate has been taken away from me and do not feel in anyway it would of harmed my experience to have transgender students welcome on the team. Transgender children are already at a high risk for suicide and other harm that to take away the activities that support them to physically develop and cooperate with others will only further cause harm to this already at risk population. This kind of separation only perpetuates hate. Each case needs to be handled with care through relationship and education about the importance of diversity.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JEFF KESSINGER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: queencityfamilyman@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2021 3:20 PM
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Honorable Committee Members, Thank you so much for allowing me to present testimony today. My name is Jeff Kessinger. I'm from Springfield, the Queen City of the Ozarks, and I oppose HJR 53. For nearly 20 years I've had the honor and privilege of writing about sports in Missouri. I've written about athletes of nearly every age and ability, from elementary students to retirees, and from recreational athletes to professionals. Most of that time has been focused on high-school sports. I have watched young people learn important life skills like teamwork, sportsmanship, leadership and self-discipline. All young people deserve a chance to learn these lessons from sports. I've seen sports give some kids a reason to show up for school every day and work hard on their grades. I've seen sports give kids an escape from rough home lives and give them a family at their school. I have also watched participation in sports bring people together that might otherwise not have been in the same social circles. Sports bring people together across racial, cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds. I've seen gay kids and straight kids form lifelong, lasting relationships with each other through their shared sports experience. The Missouri State High School Activities Association has had a policy on trans inclusion in place since 2012. It allows all athletes to compete on a level playing field. It is working. There is no reason for the state to override the experts on this subject and take all decision-making out of their capable hands. My middle daughter, Ava, decided to try out for volleyball in seventh grade, pre-COVID. It was a brave, bold choice for someone who had never played organized volleyball. Much to her delight she made the B team at Pleasant View Middle School and got a baby-blue jersey with the number 35 on it. Over the next few months we watched her learn how to persevere through tough practices, learn and polish new skills and develop new friendships with her teammates. She wore her Bluejays gear with pride and showed up to support and cheer for her teammates. We also saw her choose to spend some of her free time in the backyard working on her skills. We saw her become a fan of the Missouri State Bears. I'd take her to matches and listen to her talk about what she was seeing on the court, relating it to her experiences as a volleyball player. It was an all-around great experience for Ava and our family. All children should have access to those experiences and I would proudly support any trans child who wanted to play volleyball with my daughter, without hesitation. HJR 53 would deny transgender kids the opportunity to have those same experiences Ava had. Forcing them to play as the sex they were assigned at birth and not the gender they know themselves to be most often ends in kids leaving sports altogether. It is an isolating policy that will negatively impact the lives of trans students. Schools across the country know that all students thrive when they are treated with dignity and respect. Please vote against HJR 53 and allow MSHSAA to continue to provide a fair, equitable, inclusive policy for all young athletes in our state. Thank you so much for your time today. I would be happy to answer any questions you might have about MSHSAA's current policy on trans participation.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JERALD SCOTT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jscottnet1@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2021 9:05 PM
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My name is Jerry Scott and I oppose HJR53. I have been coaching youth sports for 11+ years now, and my goal for all players, regardless of skill, experience or personality, was to create an atmosphere where kids could have fun and feel they belonged. I think I was successful, with the exception of one girl. This girl was very quiet, didn't socialize with the other girls, and was uncomfortable with their attempts to include her. At times I would even say she seemed depressed. I thought her depressed mood could have been because she was frustrated with me, so I worked with her mother to try to identify what was causing her to feel that way. I tried many different things to make her happy and join in with our team activities but was never successful. After a couple of years of playing, she decided to leave the team. Soon after that, I learned the reason she was distant during the years on my team is because she didn't identify with the other girls. She felt like a boy. Once I heard this, it all made sense. There was nothing that I, or the girls on my team, could have done that would have made a difference to her. It wasn't about us. It was about her. She needed to play on a team with players that she identified with and could connect with. Since she has left my team she has changed her name and identifies as a boy now. Allowing him to play on boys' teams ensures that he will have the same access to the benefits of team sports that all kids should have. Sports for kids in secondary schools should be about building friendships, learning to work as a team, and being part of a community. I don't see any reason to deny or restrict access to those opportunities. I believe bill HJR53 should be rejected.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JOEY BORRELLI		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 12:00 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JORDYN WILSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jordynrwilson@icloud.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 11:45 AM
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Pieces of legislation like this one are a form of fear-mongering that ignore the large scale, real world testing of the policies currently in place for transgender athletes. I participated in youth sports, and that participation was instrumental in learning how to work with others as a team, despite their physical or cultural backgrounds. These children are trying to live their best lives, and this legislation would cause real harm for them. To deny children the opportunity to participate in sports according to their preferred gender is cruel and antiquated policy.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JUSTICE T. HORN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: justicetyronehorn@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 12:54 PM
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I oppose this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KAREN ROGERS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mizzouatheart@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 6:41 PM
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I urge the committee to oppose HJR 53 because discrimination should not be a Missouri value. I am the parent of two children, aged 13 and 8, and both show every sign of being cisgender. I care about this issue because I believe transgender kids, like other students, deserve the same chances to learn teamwork, sportsmanship, leadership and self-discipline that my children have, and to build a sense of belonging with their peers. In pursuing this legislation, Missouri is going against current medical practice. 17 states that have passed legislation that expressly allows and supports the full inclusion of transgender youth on sports teams according to their gender. Policies that single out transgender students from sports inevitably are policies that isolate transgender youth from participating in the entire school experience with peers and friends. I would have no problem with my kids participating with transgender students in their athletic programs, and I don't think prejudices should dictate who gets to participate. We also should not punish school districts for valuing all our children. Thank you for your time.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KAREN STOKES		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jeffandkarenstokes@charter.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 5:09 PM

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Hello, My name is Karen Stokes. I live in St. Louis, MO and I am writing in opposition of HJR53. I have a son. He is 21 now. Graduating from Northwestern in cognitive psychology and has been accepted to Berkeley and George Washington Universities for his PhD program. We are anxiously awaiting Chase's decision. My son's name is Chase. Chase Jonathon Stokes. He came out to us as transgender when he was fourteen years old. At first, he thought he was lesbian. And then he realized that he was a young man, trapped in the wrong body. Why does my story start with his personal achievement? Because I needed to show you what unconditional support of a child means and what it can help them grow to be. I want you to look at him as the man he is becoming and the contributions his life will bear on our future. He attended Millard North High School in Omaha, NE. When he came out, he was frightened and scared and nervous about just being who he was. If finding acceptance as a 14 year old doesn't feel raw and vulnerable enough as it is, he had to share his personal journey with his world and ask those around him to see him differently than they had previously. And lucky for him, they did. The Millard North HS principal, Brian Begley, designated a non-gendered bathroom for any queer student to use. Teachers welcomed Chase, used his pronouns and honored his name change. He participated in marching band, show choir band, was an IB diploma graduate and basically, lived a full, happy adolescent life. He was not made to feel different. He was not told, "no, you can't do this". He was shown that he was loved for the person he was and the person his high school family, teachers, directors, staff, and administration could see the potential for him to grow into being. What an incredible blessing for us all. So, what does this story have to do with the HJR53 bill? It is to show you what it means for a young person to be told you are loved and respected for who you are. Our transgender children need this love and acceptance, whether they identify as male, female or neither. They need love and acceptance on the band field, the track, the court and the classroom. They are NO different than ANY child that is growing and learning and becoming the person they are meant to be. If and when you take away the "transgender" label, they become just another adolescent that is going through one of the most vulnerable times in their lives. Remember all the quiet self-examinations you did yourself at that age? "Is my nose too big for my face?" "Why are my feet SO big?" "I hate my voice." The self-microscopic examination was brutal and yet, it was on a body you felt comfortable in. You felt you were home in your body. It was your's. Now imagine all that self-scrutiny and amplify it by not feeling your body represents you AND being told you don't fit in here. You can't play. You aren't right. If HJR53 passes, it would send the message to our transgender children in Missouri that they are not respected or accepted for who they are. All children deserve the privilege of learning teamwork, following instruction and being a part of something more. Transgender kids have the same exact dreams and hopes and vulnerabilities of every single adolescent out in the world today. Please consider the importance and positive impact that educators and especially, coaches, can have in their lives. Please, vote against HJR 53. I greatly appreciate your service to the state of

Missouri.Sincerely,Karen StokesShe/her/her's



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KATHERINE SASSER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: katherinesasser@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 11:11 AM

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I want to tell you a story about the day my oldest daughter decided to walk away from team sports. She was only 7 years old, 3 years into her blooming youth soccer career. Admittedly, I am a typically biased parent, but on the field, she floated. When she wasn't counting goals (she was the self-proclaimed leading goal scorer and the only person keeping track), she was her teammates' biggest cheerleader. Soccer Saturdays were her favorite day. She completely lit up when she was on the field with her team. She was in her element, with her people. That all changed in the fall of 2018. We arrived at the soccer fields for the first day of the new season. It was the perfect day for soccer -- a bite to the air, the warm sun beating down, the grass still wet with dew. We walked up to meet her new coach and team, her beaming eyes were already searching for faces of familiar friends. As her eyes registered her teammates in the distance, she saw only one thing: boys. I watched in horror as she visibly folded up inside of herself. To this point, her teams had been co-ed, as we expected this one to be. For logistical reasons, this soccer club decided to split kids into girls and boys teams and this was the first we learned of it. The club placed my trans daughter on the boys team. She was shaken and confused. "Mom, why are there only boys on my team? Where are my friends?" We paused. I felt my chest burn and my mind spin a thousand directions as I searched for a way to make her feel safe and known at that moment. I knelt down to meet my daughter in the eyes and said, "I know this isn't what we expected, and I know you love soccer. What would you like to do right now?" She looked over at the team, then looked back at me with tearful eyes and a settled certainty, then said, "Let's just go home Mom. I know I don't belong here." And she never went back. We all want our kids to experience the joy and struggle of belonging to a team -- to learn community building, leadership skills and many other benefits of team sports. We want to celebrate with them in their wins and hold them in the pains of defeat. I worry my child won't get to experience this. My daughter simply wanted to show up as herself to participate in something she enjoyed with a community she loved. She was robbed of that opportunity when she was treated differently. Will you take away the same opportunity from trans youth across our state?



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KATIE SCHROEDER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: katiemsrdh06@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 10:52 PM
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This is clearly a way to shut out members of the transgender community from participating in athletics. It is unconscionable that the Missouri Legislature would consider a constitutional amendment to discriminate against LGBTQIA youth. Members of the transgender community face discrimination, bullying, threats, sexual assault, and increased rates of suicide compared to the general population, and you think it is okay to further that discrimination -- that feeling of being "other" - the feelings of exclusion with a constitutional amendment related to sports. As I know that the vast majority of Missouri Legislators are Christian, I am appalled at the policies laid forth by you that are exactly opposite to the Christian upbringing that I had. The one where I learned to love your neighbors and above all else to treat others how you would want to be treated. God made us all! And every variation of us! Accept and embrace those differences!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KELLY STORCK		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: tkstorck@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2021 8:43 PM

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I have over 10 years of training and clinical experience in transgender health that give me a deep understanding of trans people. I put my heart into my work but ultimately my heart belongs to my two children, including this amazing 16 year old transgender son. My son and I have testified against the slew of anti-trans bills proposed by reckless, uninformed, and bigoted politicians for four years now. This means he has had to fight to protect his right to use the bathroom, to play sports and to continue his medically necessary care. He is a child, a beautiful child, and this nonsense is absolutely tiresome. years ago to defend his right to use the bathroom at school. I am here to defend his right to play sports with his peers at school. I imagine you know what it feels like to love a child so deeply that you pledge to protect and nourish them with all of your being. This is the way I love my kids too. My child is part of an incredible group of young men who share a love of running. He is a proud kid with a coach who feels lucky to have him and a team full of athletes who welcome him. Everyone is better for it, fair and square. Although I believe it is about something much deeper and more sinister, let's imagine this bill was introduced in the name of fairness. This is chocked full of issues, let me run us through just a few...Issue 1: The idea that trans athletes are a threat to the integrity of sports is starkly revealed as a falsehood by the lack of any dominance, at any level, by athletes who are trans. Issue 2: MSHSA already has a policy and procedure in place. Trans girls must have their testosterone suppressed for a year, removing any possible hormonal advantage. Where are the victims of this current practice? This bill makes certain victims where there are currently none. Issue 3: How do you possibly reconcile the fact that this bill mandates transboys onto girls' teams? Boys who are on testosterone, boys who are visibly boys despite birth certificates that say they are girls, boys who are recognized as boys all day at school are now competing on and against your girls' teams. Isn't this the very "problem" you are seeking to legislate away? This bill is problematic. This bill being voted on by legislators who do not accept or understand trans youth is deeply problematic. You know what's not problematic? Trans athletes continuing to participate on teams that align with their gender. If you still believe you have a right or duty to move this bill along, it is your responsibility to educate yourselves and those of us with years of professional and lived experiences will help you. Moving forward without such diligence will harm many MO children and is a blatant lapse of your duty as an elected official.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KELSEY ?HURMAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: kelsthurman@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2021 11:05 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

To this committee, As an alumnae of Festus High school, located in Festus, MO I participated in Cross Country, as well as Track and Field from a young age. Your colleague, Representative Becky Ruth can inform you of the long hours I spent at the track on hot summer afternoons (Rep. Ruth was not only my former Coach, but one of my high school teachers as well). Also, I'm a Junior Olympian, which fueled my participation in High School sports. I went from winning medals at the national level in middle school through Select Track and Field to participating in HS Varsity Cross Country where I competed at State meets. My high school coach was Bryant Wright, a member of the MTCCCA Hall of Fame, who has coach many teams to State Victory over the past years. Also, my mother, Elisa Thurman, an educator at Festus Intermediate, is a Cross Country and Track + Field Coach with middle school students. She has coached so many students who have gone on to further not only their academic careers through her teaching, but participate in State meets and win medals through her proactive mentorship. It would not be hyperbole to say that my whole life revolved around running during my grade school years. Running provided me with a community. I developed meaningful relationships within my running community and I was rewarded with opportunities that I wouldn't have had otherwise. Running was also important to my family, to my grandparents and cousins. Literally every conversation in my household involved running-it's no joke. I don't run anymore, but I reflect on and still learn from my experiences in the world of MSHSAA and running. I firmly believe that by placing discriminatory restrictions on LGBTQ + youths wishing to participate in athletics in secondary schools that receive state funding is not only morally wrong, but does a disservice to youths, their families, and their communities. Transgender individuals deserve a place in Missouri State regulated athletics, which is why there are already policies in place under the NCAA and MSHSAA that address the very concerns of this bill. Transgender youths do not need further restrictions placed on them from the Missouri Legislator concerning state athletics. Transgender youths are apart of one of the most at-risk demographics in our country. According The Human Rights Campaign, Transgender individuals face outstanding discrimination and harassment. Trans people live in poverty at elevated rates, especially trans people of color, and have severe lack of protection from the US Justice system. Not to mention, a majority of trans people have faced violence, with trans people of color being murdered more than any other group within the LGBTQ+ community. There are huge disparities for trans individuals in our country. I think that during this moment in history, legislators like yourself have an obligation to help members of this state. I have never been offended by a trans person competing against me. I have lost nothing in having a transgender person compete against me. As a healthcare worker now, I know from peer reviewed evidence that there are no advantages that Trans people have in their respective sporting events due to simply being transgender. Trans people have been competing in various events this whole time, including the Olympics. Bill HJR 53 are not only dangerous to school children by creating transphobic legislation, but they deny kids the rights of their peers. This legislation would

deny trans kids the opportunities to have meaningful relationships with their peers, coaches and fans. It would deny their families the chance to cheer them on and be proud of them for their athleticism. Trans people, especially the trans kids these bills effect, deserve to have fun and have the same sporting experiences as their peers. Trans school children and youths should be able to participate in athletic events held by the state of Missouri under MSHSAA with the same regulations that are awarded their Cisgender peers. I have spent so much of my life learning and growing on the course, sweating and striving on the track, and if someone else in this state wants to do that work: they deserve the right to do so. Let Trans kids and youths have fun. Sincerely, Kelsey Thurman Columbia, MO 65201



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KELSEY KELLY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: kcyllek@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 4:04 PM
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Trans kids deserve to have the same opportunities as cis kids.



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WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KELSEY THURMAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: kelsthurman@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 5:33 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

As an alumnae of Festus High school, located in Festus, MO I participated in Cross Country, as well as Track and Field from a young age. Your colleague, Representative Becky Ruth can inform you of the long hours I spent at the track on hot summer afternoons (Rep. Ruth was not only my former Coach, but one of my high school teachers as well). Also, I'm a Junior Olympian, which fueled my participation in High School sports. I went from winning medals at the national level in middle school through Select Track and Field to participating in HS Varsity Cross Country where I competed at State meets. My high school coach was Bryant Wright, a member of the MTCCCA Hall of Fame, who has coach many teams to State Victory over the past years. Also, my mother, Elisa Thurman, an educator at Festus Intermediate, is a Cross Country and Track + Field Coach with middle school students. She has coached so many students who have gone on to further not only their academic careers through her teaching, but participate in State meets and win medals through her proactive mentorship. It would not be hyperbole to say that my whole life revolved around running during my grade school years. Running provided me with a community. I developed meaningful relationships within my running community and I was rewarded with opportunities that I wouldn't have had otherwise. Running was also important to my family, to my grandparents and cousins. Literally every conversation in my household involved running-it's no joke. I don't run anymore, but I reflect on and still learn from my experiences in the world of MSHSAA and running. I firmly believe that by placing discriminatory restrictions on LGBTQ + youths wishing to participate in athletics in secondary schools that receive state funding is not only morally wrong, but does a disservice to youths, their families, and their communities. Transgender individuals deserve a place in Missouri State regulated athletics, which is why there are already policies in place under the NCAA and MSHSAA that address the very concerns of this bill. Transgender youths do not need further restrictions placed on them from the Missouri Legislator concerning state athletics. Transgender youths are apart of one of the most at-risk demographics in our country. According The Human Rights Campaign, Transgender individuals face outstanding discrimination and harassment. Trans people live in poverty at elevated rates, especially trans people of color, and have severe lack of protection from the US Justice system. Not to mention, a majority of trans people have faced violence, with trans people of color being murdered more than any other group within the LGBTQ+ community. There are huge disparities for trans individuals in our country. I think that during this moment in history, legislators like yourself have an obligation to help members of this state. I have never been offended by a trans person competing against me. I have lost nothing in having a transgender person compete against me. As a healthcare worker now, I know from peer reviewed evidence that there are no advantages that Trans people have in their respective sporting events due to simply being transgender. Trans people have been competing in various events this whole time, including the Olympics. Bill HJR 53 are not only dangerous to school children by creating transphobic legislation, but they deny kids the rights of their peers. This legislation would

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KENDALL MARTINEZ-WRIGHT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: kendallmartinezwright@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 2/25/2021 8:52 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KERRI SCHAFER, PHD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: schaferk@missouri.edu	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 12:48 PM	
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My name is Dr. Kerri Schafer and I live in Columbia, MO. I am a licensed psychologist, working with college students at the MU Counseling Center. I am on the board of The Center Project, Mid-Missouri's first and only LGBTQ community center, and on the board of Transgender Health Network, which works to improve access to and quality of healthcare for transgender people in mid-Missouri. In these roles, I have provided trainings and consultation to healthcare providers, social service workers, and other community members. I spend a good deal of my time listening to the stories of transgender folks and educating others in an effort to make the world a safer and more hospitable place for our transgender community members. I oppose HJR 53. This line of legislation clearly exists because we as a community understand the benefits of participating in team sports. I was painfully shy as a child and teenager and being part of the tennis team in high school was a huge source of self-esteem for me. On the tennis court I felt happy, free, and un-self-conscious. I was secure in my sense of belonging with my team. I learned how to handle disappointment and failure, and how to support and uplift others. Many of your or your children probably have similar stories about the positive impact of being part of something – a team, an organization, a community. There are a lot of misconceptions about the impact of transgender girls participating on girls' sports teams. Some of these arguments may seem reasonable at first glance. However, the reality is that transgender athletes are not much different than the other girls they participate with – very few of them become elite athletes. They participate in sports for the same reasons as any student: to have fun, challenge themselves, and experience the sense of belonging that comes with being part of a team. There is no evidence that transgender girls are bigger, stronger, or faster than other girls, and they should not be punished for this incorrect assumption. In fact, when a non-transgender girl is exceptionally tall or strong, we celebrate that and encourage participation in sports – “Wow, have you thought about playing volleyball?!” Sense of belonging is a huge benefit of team sports. Everyone wants to feel part of something – a family, a group of friends, a faith community, a team. Unfortunately, transgender kids are often excluded from this sense of belonging. We know that trans kids are already at high risk of poor treatment and exclusion from all sides. We also know that excluding transgender students from teams that align with their gender identity really means excluding them from sports altogether. I want our state to do better than this kind of discrimination. We can continue to leave policies up to our state high school activities association (which currently allows transgender students to play on the team that aligns with their gender identity) and prevent government overreach. Transgender students deserve our respect and protection. Every single day, these students are choosing to live their lives with integrity, despite the risks. We should be celebrating them and giving them opportunities to thrive, not excluding them. Please vote against HJR 53. Thank you very much for your time today.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KERRI WIEBERG		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: klwwhw@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 9:52 PM
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This is a hurtful, backwards stepping piece of legislation that should be voted down. Being a teenager is hard enough without singling out kids and shaking their confidence during very informative years. It takes great strength to step up and coming out as trans and even more strength to put themselves out there to play a sport where some ignorant people will have an opinion about their identity. It's also a lame excuse to say girls can't compete with transgender girls on teams due to such things as muscle mass, bone density, etc. because once hormones are taken for a year, there's a significant change in the girls body. Quoting Air Force studies is like comparing apples to oranges...too many different variables. Lastly with regard to biology. By taking hormones to transition from boy to girl or girl to boy, these young people are changing their biology so this a mute point.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KEVIN L NAHM		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: knahm@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 10:58 PM
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I do not support this resolution in any way shape or form.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LAURA BURKHARDT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: laburkhardt3@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 6:24 PM
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This legislation is detrimental to the health of transgender children. I strongly urge every committee member to oppose this anti-transgender legislation.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LISA		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: lispahr@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 10:12 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Testimony in Opposition of HJR 53 By Lisa Spahr, Manchester, MO 63021 Thank you for considering my testimony today, in opposition of HJR 53. Thank you also for allowing virtual testimony. My name is Lisa Spahr, pronouns are she/her/hers. I live in Manchester, Missouri. I am a member of the Manchester United Methodist Church. I am the proud parent of two children, one of whom is transgender. I have had to navigate this journey with them to ensure both of my children feel loved, supported, accepted and safe. It has also required me to do a great deal of learning; reading, researching and spending time in the transgender community to prepare in the ways necessary to deliver on my responsibilities as their parent. I want my children to live their best lives and achieve their highest potentials. We have endured challenging situations at school, but we have traversed these events with warm and caring school administrators and leaders. I remain grateful and optimistic most of the time. We were the first in the school to transition, and this is one of the cases where being "first" is not a coveted position to be in. At one point every one of the parents, of children in my child's class, were called to alert them of their coming out. I ask, what has every parent in your child's class been called for, as it relates to your child's health and wellbeing? Can you imagine how that made me feel as a parent? It was as though group permission needed to be granted to allow my child to live their authentic self. Their life is hard and often feels unfair. They attend weekly counseling to work on social challenges, anxiety, coping mechanisms, mild depression, etc. Beyond all of this, my child simply wants what all children want. To be included, valued and engaged with others. As a parent, I take my job very seriously. I must protect, defend and attempt to secure a safe and prosperous life for my children, full of all of the opportunities I can give to them. But I can't do that alone. I need your help. The laws that you put in place can help or hurt me in that mission. This particular one will only limit and detriment my child's opportunities and chances to build self-confidence, skill-development and the camaraderie that is often found in team sports. I dedicate hours each week to my child's care: weekly counseling appointments outside of school, discussions with school counselors, administrators and teaching staff, pediatric endocrinologist appointments, regular pediatric medical and dental visits, support groups, etc.... Please help me by ensuring that my children have full access to opportunities that build them up, make them feel included and valued, and keep them engaged in positive team activities. These activities are vital to our children's positive growth and development. In summary, I ask that you oppose HJR 53 because the bill will exclude my child from rewarding and enriching opportunities that can improve their health, wellbeing and a sense of community. These opportunities can make significant impacts in the lives of children like mine. I ask you not to take them away. I welcome your questions and you getting to know our family so that we can put a face to the trans community for you. Thank you for your time and consideration. Respectfully submitted, Lisa Spahr



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LOGAN STORCK		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: loganstorck17@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2021 8:57 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I've been here for the past 4 years, because every year there are many persistent attempts to make sure I, "know my place" in athletic competition, bathrooms and the medical world. Putting me in "girls" activities won't make me a girl. This bill would force me into the girls team where I'd end up, notably, being the only boy. Isn't this the very problem you sought to abolish? There will still be outrage and calls of unfair play. I don't want parents coming up to me because I, a testosterone taking human, am a boy playing on the wrong field and running in the wrong race. If you pass this bill I'll be no less of a boy than I am right now, I'll be no less of a boy than I was in my BOYS sports this year. If you truly care about me or the lives of trans kids in Missouri, you'll oppose this bill that discriminates against us.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MACKENZIE R GOODWIN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mgoodwinbhp@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 6:41 PM

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As a lifelong proud Missourian, I strongly oppose this legislation which singles out and discriminates against a small minority of students who merely wish to participate in sports. This will only increase the already high levels of discrimination against transgender students, leading to an unnecessary increase in hostility and division. It is cruel and serves no actual legislative purpose. What's more, it will cost huge sums of taxpayer money in litigation and a potential loss of funds for all students who participate in sports. In short, it is mean, backwards, discriminatory and will dissuade both people and businesses from wanting to reside in Missouri. I strongly urge you to vote no.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MALLORY SCHWARZ		PHONE NUMBER: 708-307-4488	
REPRESENTING: NARAL PRO-CHOICE MISSOURI		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 1210 S. VANDEVENTER AVENUE			
CITY: ST LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63110
EMAIL: mallory@prochoicemissouri.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 3:35 PM	

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HJR 53 - Proposes a constitutional amendment to prevent transgender athletes from competing in gender-affirming interscholastic sports Chairman Griesheimer, Vice-Chairman Patterson, members of the committee; thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition to HJR 53. NARAL Pro-Choice Missouri, representing 70,000 Missourians across the state, works to protect and expand every Missourians’ right to decide if, when, how and with whom to start and grow their family and to parent in safety and dignity. Moreover, we work to ensure reproductive justice for all Missourians, which involves advocating to reduce health disparities based on race, socioeconomic status, insurance coverage status, gender identity, and other factors. When compared to their cisgender counterparts, transgender students are more susceptible to bullying, sexual assault, and drug use, causing transgender youth to be more than 3 times more likely to attempt suicide. This is a direct product of isolation, demonization, and invalidation through policies that deny their gender identity. HJR 53 will perpetuate this harm against young people by attempting to codify discrimination against transgender student athletes: transgender women would be forced to compete in men’s sports, and transgender men would be forced to compete in women’s sports, in contrast of their gender identity. This requirement is inconsistent with medical research. A meta-analysis of transgender athletes published in the Sports Medicine journal concluded that there “is no direct or consistent research suggesting transgender female individuals (or male individuals) have an athletic advantage at any stage of their transition (e.g. cross-sex hormones, gender-confirming surgery).” Instead, policies which discriminate against transgender people serve as a substantial barrier for transgender students to participate in interscholastic sports. On the national level, the Supreme Court has already ruled in *Bostock v. Clayton County* (2020) that discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity qualifies as sex discrimination. This discrimination has been at the root of violence and exclusion of transgender individuals for decades, and must be ended to create a society where every student has the opportunity to participate in interscholastic sports. As Missourians, we value personal freedom, and the right to live life free of government interference, yet the Missouri legislature is once again eager to undermine our abilities as individuals to make decisions about health and wellbeing. Missouri students deserve to be treated with dignity and respect, including transgender students who want to participate in sports in a way that corresponds with their gender identity. This bill will create lasting damage to the mental health and development of transgender young people, whose gender identity will be explicitly invalidated by this legislation. NARAL Pro-Choice Missouri opposes the advancement of this bill, and urges you to vote NO today.

1: Osborne, Mark. January 25, 2019. “Transgender youth more than 3 times as likely to attempt suicide; also report higher incidents of bullying, drug use, sexual assault.” ABC News
 2: Jones, Bethany, Jon Arcelus, Walter Pierre Bouman, and Emma Haycraft. October 3, 2016. “Sport and Transgender People: A Systematic Review of the Literature Relating to Sport Participation

and Competitive Sport Policies.” *Sports Medicine Journal*.3: Burns, S., Leitch, R., & Hughes, J. (2016).
“Barriers and Enablers of Education Equality for Transgender Students.” *Review of Social Studies*, 3
(2), 11-20.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARTHA ECHOLS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mle_80@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 12:04 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Dear Committee, I am a mother and caretaker of children by profession. I am writing to ask that you please oppose bill HJR 53 would prohibit trans youth from participating in sports, which excludes them from the critical values and skills kids develop when having the opportunity to play on a team. This bill would be devastating for children, it will make children feel rejected and ultimately not be allowed to play sports. I want to live a society where all people have the opportunity to thrive, not have certain people be excluded and rejected. Please reach out to transgender people and learn their stories. You will gain understanding and perspective that is needing when making choices about other people's lives. Thank you for your time and consideration.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MELINA CONSTANTINE MISEO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: melinaconstantine@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2021 1:52 PM
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Transgender students deserve the same inclusion and respect as their cisgender (non-transgender) peers. They deserve to be able to learn teamwork, sportsmanship, and leadership. The idea that transgender girls would have an advantage over cisgender girls simply because they were assigned male at birth contributes to the idea that transgender girls are “actually boys”, and that boys are naturally better at sports. Which is false. Transgender girls are required by the athletic organizations to have suppressed testosterone levels to the point where it matches with other girls, so they would have no biological advantage. Also, all girls have all varying levels of strength and athletic talent. All girls, both transgender and cisgender, should be allowed to express their talents and abilities, and have a sense of belonging amongst peers. HJR 53 would be denying foundational childhood experiences to an already marginalized population.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL DEMPSEY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 12:00 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MILES ROWE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 12:00 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: NANCY GOTH		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: ngoth02@hotmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 9:40 AM

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MSHSAA already has satisfactory rules. This bill is not about integrity, it is about discrimination. IF integrity were the real issue, Moleg would be concerned about residency & recruiting by Charters & Private schools & abusive use of scholarships. Appears Republicans desire elimination & nullification of residency as a local control right & implement the GOP cancel culture instead. My daughter-in-law & friend played on a boys team. They were productive, skilled, respected contributors to the TEAM. Gender should never restrict access to sports. Period. That alone negates the integrity of the intent of this bill. No child should be forced to deny who they know they are. No adult, no school, no Legislature should dictate who someone is or is not.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: OTTO FAJEN		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-3202
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI NEA		TITLE: LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 1810 EAST ELM STREET		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: otto.fajen@mnea.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 10:40 AM

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Missouri NEA Testimony on HJR 53 to the House Emerging Issues Committee March 3, 2021
The Association appreciates the opportunity to present written testimony regarding HJR 53. The Association opposes the joint resolution. HJR 53 would ask voters to approve a constitutional provision that specifically overrules current MSHSAA Board Policy on Transgender Participation as taken from existing NCAA policy. HJR 53 would require students participating in any single-gender event or activity organized by MSHSAA or another statewide organization to participate in the event corresponding to the student's biological sex at birth. The Association believes that educators should continue to establish the policies and procedures that govern the activities of Missouri students who participate in high school activities and opposes HJR 53. In addition, MSHSAA policy currently aligns with the transgender participation policies of the NCAA and the IOC. Adoption of HJR 53 would deny competitive high school athletics opportunities to otherwise eligible athletes who could advance to competitive sports in college and international venues. Not being able to compete in high school will create a significant disadvantage to many Missouri athletes. On behalf of the Association, I thank you for the opportunity to offer our testimony on this bill.
Otto Fajen
MNEA Legislative Director



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: PATRICK SASSER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: patrickasasser@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 2:36 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Dear members of the Emerging Issues Committee, my name is Patrick Sasser and I'm a teacher and a coach in the Columbia Public School district. About a year ago I put some thoughts down about transgender athletes in an editorial (<https://www.columbiatribune.com/opinion/20200309/commentary-transgender-athletes-shouldnt-be-limited>) that was published in the Columbia Tribune. At that time Missouri legislature bills SJR 50 and HJR 82 were being heard. Well another year down and the merits of another bill are being discussed, HJR 53. I want to put together some thoughts below that show my opposition to HJR 53 below. As a coach of 14 years and athlete with many seasons under my belt I recognize the importance that sports have played in my own life. The valuable life lessons still sit with me to this day, which is a main reason why I devote many hours in season to coaching. However, none of those lessons came from being the best. These life lessons mostly consist of pushing myself to my absolute limit, what it means to put others before myself, and what it looks like to have a group of people in harmony working towards a similar goal. These life lessons that I hold so dearly really don't boil down to wins or losses. I experienced the jubilation of winning and the despair of defeat on many occasions, but I don't hold that closely like I do with the other intrinsic stuff that comes from my time as an athlete and a coach. As the parent of a trans child I would be devastated to learn that one of my children couldn't participate in sports because her participation was viewed as a threat to the integrity of some sport. Think about the psychological impact it would have on my trans child to tell her she couldn't participate in sports but her brother and sister could participate. Think further about the psychological impact of me telling my trans child that she must participate in sports with her male classmates, that she won't see any of her same gender friends on her team or those that she would compete against. We cannot simply say that a person can be accepted for who they are during the school day and then not accept them in the same way during sports practice at the very same school. When you boil this down the fear and frustration about transgender people competing in sports isn't about females transitioning to males participating in male sports. It is universally about males transitioning to females and participating in female sports. The assumption is that these athletes will have a competitive advantage over their female counterparts. The International Olympic Committee ruled that trans athletes could compete with other cis gender athletes in the olympics since 2004 and they haven't won a medal in the olympics yet. Again, if we go down this road where does it stop? If it is about a competitive advantage then we need to be prepared to legislate athletes who can bench press or squat more than their counterparts. What about a person who is born with higher levels of a naturally occurring hormone? Should we be drug and hormone testing every athlete to find out where their advantages lie and legislate that? If the worry is about the eroding and destruction of female sports then let's not waste time with legislation surrounding transgender athletes, but let's instead figure a way to remove sexually predatory coaches from sport. I have heard people express fear that people may switch genders in order to simply be a predator against others of the sex they identify with.

This is incredibly offensive and utterly ridiculous. It completely negates the experience of the trans person and the inner turmoil they feel surrounding their gender each and every day. In the end I pose the question why are we putting so much effort towards discriminatory legislation against trans people competing in sports? In my time as a coach in 14 track seasons and another 8 cross seasons, and twelve competition seasons as an athlete I haven't once encountered a trans athlete. I can tell you that I have seen predatory coaching behavior a number of times throughout those experiences. There are also many other incidents occurring like Penn State and Michigan State that have received national attention and so many other instances receiving only minor media coverage. The threat to athletes and the integrity of sport is far greater from sexual predatory coaches than from the inclusion of trans athletes. Let's put our attention and focus on legislating change there. If you fear that a trans woman might have ill intentions with her teammates and those in her sport then you can't say in good conscience that men should be coaching women's sports or that a trainer for a women's sport can be a man. I like to close out by saying when I hear about a transgender athlete I'm quick to identify them for who they are and acknowledge the struggle and pain that they must have experienced in their life, something that personally I can only begin to imagine. In the end I also don't want to label these people as a boy playing a girls sport or vice versa. I want my own child to be viewed and identified as exactly who she is just a normal girl. I'm not sure if my daughter will ever play sports or be involved in sports in the way that I have, but I do want her to have that opportunity because sports did make a difference for me. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. Please vote no on HJR 53 as I've laid out it is damaging and discriminatory and a misguided attempt addressing a problem that doesn't really exist.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PATRICK SASSER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: patrickasasser@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 12:59 PM

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Will be submitted Wednesday.



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WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PAUL A LEYKAMP		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: leykamp.paul@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 2:59 PM
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All this bill does is make trans athletes feel bad about themselves.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PAUL H TAGHERT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: taghertp@wustl.edu	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2021 10:23 PM
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I wish to testify in opposition to this Bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PAUL TAGHERT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: taghertp@wustl.edu	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 9:19 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I come before you as a Missouri resident) since 1984. Our family lives at 7527 Westmoreland Avenue, in St Louis, 63105. I work at the Washington University School of Medicine where I am on the faculty in the Department of Neuroscience. I am a Professor and recently served as the Chair, among other administrative positions. So by profession, I am a scientist and teacher. More importantly I am a parent, with a daughter and son here before you today to urge you to oppose HJR 53. This bill under discussion today, March 3, 2021 seeks enforce a ban on transgender youth being able to participate in sports.HJR 53 would exclude transgender girls from being able to participate in sports with peers of their same gender. Transgender youth across Missouri deserve a chance to be part of a team, and to play the sport they love. In so doing, and just like any other young athlete, they can learn the values of teamwork, respect, and leadership in concert with their friends. 17 states in our Union have passed legislation that expressly allows and supports the full inclusion of transgender youth on sports teams according to their gender. This is national a movement in its ascendancy because it affirms and supports inclusion for children to participate and make a contribution to the ethos of team sports. As a state, Missouri can and should be in that national vanguard.In fact, sports are an invaluable part of students' physical, social, and emotional well-being. And our laws should not exclude or single out any child having the opportunity to participate in that as an essential and valuable part of the school experience. In 2018 our transgender daughter played Girls soccer as a senior in High School. To gain permission to do so we followed a long administrative road, hewing tightly to the procedures and practices that were already in place according to Mshsaa policies. Thus MsHsaa – the Missouri State High School Activities Association - has established policies for transgender athletes to play on teams as the gender they know themselves to be. And by the way the established Mshsaa policies align with those of the NCAA. Throughout this process, we received strong inclusive support from all groups that were involved - players on our daughters team and players on competing teams, parents supporting both teams in competition, coaches, and school administrators. It was an extremely positive experience for our daughter and it encouraged us in the conviction that our society is ready to promote such equal access to sports and is moving not to enact, but to dismantle these discriminatory statutes. I am here to remind you and encourage you in that path towards greater not less inclusion for all Americans. All students including transgender students should have opportunities to experience the impact and growth that comes with playing sports with their peers. In closing, let me add that all Americans value individual liberty, personal freedom, and the right to live life free of discrimination. Putting these proposed restrictions in statute would be incredibly harmful to the very children most in need of clear and simple affirmation. That affirmation increases the circle of school-age participation and maturation. Furthermore, there is general consensus that such restrictions are nearly impossible to enforce, and that they represent governmental support for continued discrimination. I direct you my representatives to work against discrimination. Therefore, I speak out now most strongly against HJR

53, and I urge you to vote against this measure. Thank you very much for your consideration.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: REBECCA SHAW		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: rebeccalynnshaw@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 11:40 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am a resident of Boone County with children in the Columbia School District. This bill perpetuates harmful and inaccurate beliefs. Many who oppose the inclusion of trans athletes wrongly claim that allowing trans athletes to compete will harm cisgender women. This 'us vs them' tactic gets it exactly wrong. Excluding women who are trans hurts all women. It invites gender policing and could lead to any woman being accused of being "too masculine" or "too good" at their sport to be a "real" woman. This is harmful to all, but especially young women. We should be leading our youth in practicing non-discrimination, not promoting the idea of 'other'.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: RORI PICKER NEISS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: rpicker@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 2/25/2021 5:27 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I stand in opposition to this legislation. I would like to share my families personal experience on this issue.



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WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: RORI PICKER NEISS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: rpicker@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 4:18 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

My name is Rori Picker Neiss and I work as the Executive Director of the Jewish Community Relations Council of St Louis. I am sharing today as a rabbi, as a representative of our Jewish community that voted just last year to affirm its full commitment to promote and implement complete equality, inclusion and acceptance of people regardless of gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation. Much more than that, though, I am sharing as a mother of a 9-year-old boy who was identified female at birth. I believe with my whole heart that the members of this Committee do the work that you do because you believe that you can make this state better for all the people who live within it. We want our state to flourish, to be a safe place, a place where we can raise our families, and where we can prosper. Please hear me when I say to you that this bill makes Missouri an unsafe place for my child. I don't know how my son knew that he was a boy when the rest of us couldn't see it. And I don't know why he is a boy when his body showed him to be a girl. Most importantly, though, I don't have to know. I don't even need to understand. What I need to do, as his mother, is make sure that he knows that he is loved and supported, and that he is safe. The Missouri legislature, through this bill, is trying to take that ability away from me. This legislation is discriminatory, plain and simple. It harms our youth who are already vulnerable in the name of a need that, quite frankly, does not exist. It is a solution to a fictitious problem. I am fortunate to be able to say that my son has never felt discriminated against at school or at home. The Missouri legislature, through this bill, has shown him a world in which he is different, other, ostracized. But this committee still has the chance to show him a world in which support for our children outweighs our fear of the unknown. Please, let that be the world that we give to the next generation, and vote against HJR 53.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SARA SCHMIDT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: sarajschmidt@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 3:52 AM
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Dear Honorable Committee Members, My name is Sara Schmidt and I'm from Arnold, MO. I'm a parent and volunteer with organizations like 4-H and local homeschool groups. I'm here on behalf of the many Missouri kids and teens who deserve a space in youth sports. I'm asking you to join me in opposing HJR 53. As a parent and community volunteer, I have seen how kids benefit from sports. It's completely an extension of the classroom and tomorrow's leaders are learning teamwork, time management, sportsmanship, self-discipline and so much more on the field today. They build friendships, practice executive functioning skills and practice fulfilling commitments and responsibilities, which are vital skills for Missourians to develop. I'm sure we can all agree that society benefits when children get to learn and practice these skills. Sports are such an important part of childhood. Playing Little League gave me so much more confidence and I really enjoyed being a part of a team. Cheering with my teammates built community and friendship. Doing those drills was hard work and gave me pride in myself. You learn the value of practice and hard work. You learn to win and lose with grace and the value of failure in terms of how to improve next time. It's so important that all kids get the chance to enjoy this experience as a part of their childhoods and it breaks my heart thinking that some of them might be excluded from the opportunity. This is about making sure kids and teens get to play with their friends and experience childhood to the fullest. As Americans, we understand the value of freedom and we stand firmly against discrimination. We know the right thing to do here is to support the right of ALL kids to play sports. Mike Singletary said, "Do you know what my favorite part of the game is? The opportunity to play." Please oppose HJR 53 and let these kids play. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SARAH E. FELTS		PHONE NUMBER: 314-221-2293	
REPRESENTING: PLANNED PARENTHOOD ADVOCATES IN MISSOURI		TITLE: STATEWIDE MANAGER OF COMMUNICATION & COMPLIANCE	
ADDRESS: 4251 FOREST PARK AVE			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63108
EMAIL: sarah.felts@ppmissouri.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 4:57 PM	

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Testimony in opposition to HJR 53 Planned Parenthood Advocates in Missouri opposes HJR 53's transgender youth athlete ban. Transgender kids should be treated with dignity and respect, just like everyone else, but HJR 53 singles them out for discrimination by banning them from participating in sports. Kids learn a lot of important life lessons in sports: leadership, confidence, self-respect, how to win, how to lose, and what it means to be part of a team — all young people, including transgender young people, deserve this opportunity. We know trans kids in Missouri should be able to be part of a team and play the sport they love as their authentic selves, just like any other young student. The benefits—physiological, social, and emotional—of participating in school sports teams and athletics are wide-ranging. In addition to physiological benefits such as lower rates of obesity, research has found that high school and college student-athletes may be at lower risk for anxiety and depression, suicide attempts, and tobacco and illegal drug use. Sports participation has also been associated with increased self-esteem and self-confidence, improved academic performance, stronger feelings of school connectedness and school-based social support, and broader social capital and community connectedness. Sports participation can also help increase opportunity for vulnerable school-age youth. For those who have experienced adverse childhood events—including poverty, disruption in family structure or family deaths, or learning or behavioral problems—sports participation can be a source of resilience and empowerment, protecting against short- and long-term negative impacts to mental health and well-being. These benefits can have lifelong effects: There is evidence that participating in high school or collegiate athletics is associated with higher wages and better jobs—meaning, for example, more-senior positions or more benefits offered alongside compensation. There are more than a dozen states with policies that allow transgender kids to participate in sports—and they're working. What we can't have is a policy that starts off by singling out and isolating transgender youth so they aren't allowed to play sports with the other kids in their school. Each one of us has a different biological make-up and this biological variance is part of the human experience. Legislating on the basis of something that scientists tell us is arbitrary and indeterminate isn't just baseless - it's dangerous. Do we really want the state to be mandating invasive physical inspections of female students in order for them to participate in sports? No, this is not an appropriate place to use the power of state government to control issues that are personal. Transgender kids want the opportunity to play sports for the same reason other kids do: to be a part of a team where they feel like they belong. We shouldn't discriminate against kids and ban them from playing because they're transgender. Discrimination against transgender kids doesn't belong anywhere in our laws, let alone in Missouri's Constitution. Instead of targeting trans students with discriminatory measures like HJR 53,

**we encourage the legislature to focus on measures that protect all kids, including trans kids.-----
-----Planned Parenthood Advocates in Missouri works to protect and expand sexual and reproductive rights and health for all Missourians. It is a joint project of Planned Parenthood Great Plains Votes and Advocates of Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region and Southwest Missouri, the political and advocacy arms of both Planned Parenthood affiliates in Missouri.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SARAH FELTS		PHONE NUMBER: 314-221-2293	
REPRESENTING: PLANNED PARENTHOOD ADVOCATES IN MISSOURI		TITLE: STATEWIDE MANAGER OF COMMUNICATIONS & COMPLIANCE	
ADDRESS: 4251 FOREST PARK AVE			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63108
EMAIL: sarah.felts@ppmissouri.org	ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 12:47 PM	
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We all know that transgender youth deserve the opportunity to play the sports they love and experience the valuable lessons of being on a team with their peers: teamwork, discipline, success, and failure. We know transgender youth in Missouri should be able to be part of a team and play the sport they love as their authentic selves, just like any other young student. HJR 53 discriminates against transgender students by requiring them to participate in sports according to their sex assigned at birth. Our laws should protect transgender youth, not discriminate against them.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SCOTT MCKELLAR		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mck9@swbell.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 10:13 AM

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Please reject HJR 53. Trans boys should be treated as boys, and trans girls as girls, period. Anything less than equality would be a cruel and gratuitous insult. It would send a clear message that transgender people are regarded, no matter what they may do, as inherently unworthy and unwelcome. It would reinforce what is already a startlingly high level of suicide among transgender teens. The fear I have heard voiced is that trans girls have an unfair advantage over cis girls. Tall people have an unfair advantage in basketball, and southpaws in baseball. Are you going to banish them, too? However, sports is not just about beating your opponent. It's about teamwork, and fitness, and having fun with your friends and classmates. For many it's an important part of school life, and of adolescence more generally. These experiences are more important than winning and losing. A year from now few will remember who won today's game, and fewer will care. It's not at all clear that trans girls would even have an advantage in sports if they were allowed to receive puberty blockers and other medications that would prevent or delay the masculinizing impact of puberty. Ironically, another House committee will soon be considering a bill to ban such medications -- one form of bigotry propping up another. It would be unfair to punish students who have done nothing to deserve it, by denying them benefits that are freely allowed for everyone else. Being transgender is not a form of misbehavior. Don't treat it like one.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SEAN CONNORS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: shncon@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 10:56 AM
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Hello, my name is Sean Connors and I live in St. Joseph, MO. I am a gay father of three straight children, who in the past seven years, have all graduated high school. All three of my kids went through High School knowing their father was gay. That knowledge freed my children to be accepting and affirming to their LGBTQ+ friends. While growing up, I played co-ed soccer from the time I was in Kindergarten all the way through the 8th Grade. There were many girls on our teams and they were just as competent and skillful as any boy. I have no issues with a transgender youth who has accepted who they are as a person and who wants to live an authentic life and who plays school sports, to be able to do so as their preferred gender. For transgender girls (male to female), I would assume that they have the support of their parents to start hormone therapy to suppress testosterone and increase estrogen production. They are wanting their mind/spirit to match the way they wish their bodies were. The real you is software, not hardware. You are a soul in a body, not a body with a soul. This bill states that children who play sports in schools have to play according to the sex assigned to them at birth. in all of the studies I have seen/heard on transgender people, there is often times intersex situations where people are born with both male/female genitalia and the doctor/parents are the decider of which sex the child is to be raised as. Remember, the real you is software, not hardware. What if the individual was mis-gendered at birth? Please vote no for this bill. Thank you for your time, Sean Connors



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SHANNON COOPER		PHONE NUMBER: 660-890-1432	
REPRESENTING: GREATER KANSAS CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 208 MADISON			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 12:00 AM	
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: STELLA HARRISON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 12:00 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: STEPHANIE ROSS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: tianest@yahoo.com		ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 8:48 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

My name is Stephanie Ross and I live in Lebanon. I wish to thank all of the committee members here for allowing me the opportunity to speak with you. The reason I am here today is to voice my opposition to HJR 53 and to let you know why I oppose it. Being Transgender is not something that is "popular", "chic", or "glamorous". This is not some sort of fad that is here today and will be gone tomorrow. For many Transgender people, both adults and youth, this is downright terrifying; a living nightmare that we can never wake up from. Being transgender is to be hated by the vast majority of people in this country, and especially in this state. It is worrying if you will come back unharmed, or even alive, once you leave the safety of your home. And for many Transgender people, even our homes are not safe places. In fact, we have so very few outlets to where we can escape our living nightmare, even if only for a short amount of time. We are human beings, and as such, enjoy things that other human beings enjoy. One of those things is athletics. I played baseball when I was a youth. I was very seldom a starter, but I played catcher. When I was playing the game, I was not thinking about being trapped in the wrong body, or if someone was going to harm me. Rather, my mind was focused solely on playing the game. I was not on any hormones or puberty blockers at the time. With that said, I was never going to go on to get a scholarship to some college, or go play in the minors or majors. For me, I could call a great game, was great defensively, and knew how to frame pitches and calm down the pitchers. I could not hit and I was never a fast runner. Being a male youth, I was passed over by many other male youths because I was not as physically gifted. Never did I hold that against them. That thought never entered my mind. After I did begin taking hormones, after about six months, I was even less able to do things physically than I was before. In fact, just trying to throw a ball, I tore my rotator cuff in my throwing shoulder. My muscle mass has decreased so I would not be able to play even to my previous ability. If I had taken puberty blockers and hormones as a youth, then I would not have been able to play the way I did as a youth. I am neither a physician nor an endocrinologist, but I am a person who has known that I was Transgender since I was a child. Even now, I still follow sports, and still miss playing them. And the field of sports medicine and even dealing with Transgender athletes has come a long way since the 80's and 90's when I played. The IOC is working on rules for Transgender athletes right now. They have been dealing with this issue since the 1980's, and have been at the forefront of dealing with the issues facing us today. Testosterone is a metabolic steroid, and is banned as a performance enhancer. In my personal case, my testosterone levels are almost nil. So I would have pretty much zero performance enhancements when it comes to athletics. Instead of rushing into this and sending this Constitutional Amendment to the voters, why do we not wait to see how the people who know sports and have a greater knowledge than any of us, the IOC, make their decisions? If you are worried about the legality of the issue, then there is a case from Connecticut that is making its way through the Federal Court system. Why not wait to find out the result there? This is more of an overkill, that will be used as an excuse to discriminate and justify

hostility towards transgender youth. The rate of violence towards transgender adults and youth is already high nationwide, plus suicide rates for transgender youth is higher than the normal population. If we are attempting to stop youth from committing suicide, then this proposed Constitutional Amendment would have the opposite affect. Many of you would consider yourself Pro-Life, but are considering a Constitutional Amendment that is the opposite of Life. How are you protecting Youth when you are endangering some? Do you consider Transgender youth's lives less important than non Transgender youth's lives? And does that mean that you are willing to discriminate against Transgender Youth? For me, as both a Transgender person, and a former athlete, I believe that you should put the best people on the team period. If that means that someone, like I was back in the 89's & 90's, gets bumped off a team to make room for a better player, then that is life. I am fine with that. In professional sports, that happens every day. In the Olympics, this very thing is done when making up a team. Yes, I understand being cut from a team to make room for a better athlete can and will hurt feelings, but that does not mean that there will not or never be other opportunities. Yes, I understand that parents live their sports fantasies through their children's lives, and that is a problem in society in and of itself. But are you really advocating for quotas on School athletic teams based on whether the youth was born male or female? Are you saying that the parents of the youth that were born male or female, and are competing that way currently, are more important to you than the parents of the Transgender Youth? So I oppose HJR 53 because it is discriminatory, a death sentence to Transgender Youth, and is jumping the gun as the issue has not even been settled either in the Courts or by Athletic organizations that are far more knowledgeable about this topic than you or I. Please vote no on the proposed Amendment. Thank you for your time.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: STEVEN ALAGNA		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: salagna522@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2021 10:05 PM
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I'm an attorney in St. Louis and a former middle-school teacher and coach. I'm also a lifelong Missourian, born and raised in Kansas City, where I participated in MSHSAA sports in high school. As an attorney, I've represented transgender clients in Missouri courts. Based on these experiences, I'm opposed to HJR53. This legislation would impede Missouri students from being able to access the important, formative experiences that scholastic sports can offer. I also have concerns about how the legislation ties scholastic-sport classification to a student's gender marker on a birth certificate, which can be (at times, prohibitively) difficult to update under Missouri law. I sincerely hope my state does not constitutionalize a policy that would have the effect of unfairly excluding Missouri's students from full and equal participation in school sports.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN GIBSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: Onesuegibson@protonmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/25/2021 7:25 PM
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All children are precious; transgender children are no exception. They deserve to fully participate in all school activities consistent with their gender identity. It's time members of the majority party quit tormenting and abusing Missouri's children and their families.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN HALLA		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 12:00 AM	
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TERESA DANIELEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: tkmithen@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 6:05 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am the Rev. Dr. Teresa Danieley, a priest for 17 years. Thank you for allowing me to give my testimony on Zoom. Trans children are not a threat to other children; there is no need for this joint resolution. I speak as a priest, a weekly volunteer with the Metro Trans Umbrella Group (MTUG) & a mother of 3 young children. Since the pandemic began, I have delivered groceries every week to humans served by the MTUG. What I witness in these encounters - even though we are contact free - is that trans humans are made in the image of God. I witness humans who have been cast out of their families and churches, even though I am confident that Jesus would have preferred their company to self-righteous religious authorities and oppressive rulers. In the Episcopal Church, we have a Liturgy of Re-naming. Often it's a person's lived experience of their authentic gender that leads them to take a different name. The Re-naming Liturgy draws upon Biblical stories in which people are renamed after an experience of God - Sarai became Sarah, Jacob became Israel, Simon became Peter, Saul became Paul. It is used especially on the Feast of the Transfiguration or on the Last Sunday after the Epiphany. On the Last Sunday after the Epiphany, the Rev. Kira Austin-Young preached: [In] the context of the re-naming rite, I glimpsed a deeper meaning and experienced a more personal relationship to the Transfiguration. [The Transfiguration] . . . holds great significance for those of us who have had to hide parts of ourselves from the world or who have undergone the process of becoming someone different from who we were told to be, . . . [it] is a "christophany", a manifestation or revelation of who Jesus Christ really is. The veil lifts, and Christ is displayed in all of his glory, all of his divinity, for just a moment. In the same way, the rite of re-naming is an acknowledgment of the revealed glory of that individual. To live publicly and fully as themselves is sanctification, it is holy, and thus it is a part of the same glory of Christ that is revealed in the Transfiguration. Crucially, this glory is available to all of us as faithful disciples of Christ who are sanctified and divinized through grace. To be in the place of the disciples, to witness the glory of another human being living fully into God created them to be, is a privilege, an honor, and a blessing. We are invited to stand on the mountaintop with one another and behold each other's glory, the glory that we all share in through Christ." (end quote) I have been privileged, honored and blessed to have known many trans humans. I have 3 children - ages 10, 8 and 4. I pray that if any of them ever were to come out to me as trans or queer that I would celebrate them fully as the humans God created them to be. For any on this panel who are Christian, followers of the way of Jesus, I implore you to see the full glory of the humanity shown by every trans child and every trans adult who has testified before you today. Trans children in Missouri need support and love. This constitutional amendment would lead to further bullying, shame, isolation and death. It is not of God. Do not vote for HJR 53. Thank you. (Submitting my testimony because it seems like we are running out of time.)



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: THE REV. DR. TERESA DANIELEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: tkmithen@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 7:59 PM
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There is no reason to single out trans students in their participation in interscholastic athletic contests. All children are made in God's image and should be given opportunity to participate in activities in which they can thrive without being interrogated about their gender or sexual orientation in order to participate. This seems to me to be a potentially very harmful solution in search of a non-existent problem. I will be testifying by Zoom.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: TOM JACKSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: the.tomjackson@yahoo.com		ATTENDANCE: Remote	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 11:44 AM
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I oppose this bill!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: WENDY MILLER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: wendymiller@charter.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2021 8:09 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I oppose HJR 53. You are specifically targeting and discriminating against transgender youth requiring that they only be allowed to play sports in a way that makes you feel comfortable, but makes it so that they will not. Stop bullying the most vulnerable children.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: WILLIAM GAMBLE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-4876	
REPRESENTING: GREATER ST. LOUIS, INC		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: ONE METROPOLITAN SQUARE			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 12:00 AM	
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ZORA SERFOZO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: serfozozora@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2021 10:22 PM

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Dear Committee Members, My name is Zora Serfozo. I am a Columbia, Missouri resident and have been for 30 years. I am writing in opposition to HJR53 and in support of young athletes. I was never a school athlete, so I don't know what it feels like to have that as a part of my identity. However, I am trans. I also spent most of my youth playing sports with my brother. Basketball, football, soccer, you name it. At no point did gender come up as a reason why I could or could not do the things he did and vice versa. At no point was gender a contentious issue in our game, or an unfair advantage. When I started medically transitioning with testosterone, I didn't start magically getting better at sports. And it still had no factor in how we played sports together. The idea that the gender we are assigned at birth should have any basis on our athleticism and that that's why Representative Basye wants to "protect young women" is insulting to say the least. Firstly, if you're wanting to protect young women, that should include all women, not just cis women (those women who do identify with the gender they were assigned at birth). That we are forced into gender boxes is not the fault of young people, so don't punish trans youth for living as their true selves when we were forced to be someone we're not in the first place. Secondly, that trans women are seen as a threat to cis women in the field of sports is only perpetuating sexist notions that women are "lesser", so if you want to protect young women, then you can also protect their dignity and not insult them. When I was 10, I played soccer on a co-ed soccer team. At no point did I feel less than my teammates who were assigned male at birth. I was a horrible goalie, but that can be said for the other 10 players of any soccer team, hence why there's only one goalie. Had I been made to feel less than, that would've only been the fault of sexism, not because I was actually any worse. Just compare the winning record of the US Women's soccer team to that of the Men's team to see who is actually better and then compare their pay. Rather than demonizing young trans people, if you want to protect young women athletes, take on sexism. Again, I've never been a student athlete, so I don't know what it feels like to have "athlete" as part of my identity. But I know it's wrong to ask young trans people to choose only one part of their identity to be, either athlete or trans, not both. The assault on trans lives has been a very disturbing trend to watch unfold in this country. That a country that boasts "liberty and justice for all" in one breath continues to try to find ways to keep trans people out of public spaces, be that bathrooms or sports, and fails to see the hypocrisy in its actions, the same country that spoke about freedom while enslaving millions of people for over two centuries, is indeed a disheartening thing to experience. I ask those on the committee to consider what exactly does the supposed freedom and equality this country is based on mean to you, when time and time again this country has tried to find one way or another to legalize discrimination. Whose freedom and equality are you serving to protect as our elected officials. Do young trans people not deserve the same rights to be student athletes as everyone else? And do young women, whether cis or trans, not deserve the dignity to be seen as equal athletes? I thank y'all on the committee for taking the time to hear my testimony,

and I hope y'all choose the side of equality that this country claims to be built on.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 53		DATE: 3/3/2021
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. AC "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2021 5:58 AM

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No Discrimination. This is a difficult situation. Amendments are needed.