Barbara Dee South Portland LD 868

I am opposed to any legislation that prevents a transperson from participating in athletic events or using a bathroom that corresponds to their selected gender identity. In fact I am tired of hearing this inhumane and uneducated approach to a naturally occurring condition that is, in fact, documented in the Bible and other historical accounts

- •The very small number of trans and intersex girls and women's athletes have not shown any dominance or overwhelming advantage. Years of data negate this dominance argument.
- •The notion that a trans girl has an advantage implies that cisgender women are physically inferior, which feeds into sexist stereotypes and opens the door to questioning every woman's femininity Please don't make it even worse.
- •There are very few trans people in competitive sports. In fact when trans people compete in high school sports participation rates for all students remains static while places with bans have shown a decrease in overall participation.
- •Nondiscrimination laws protecting trans people have existed for years with no increase in safety risks in public restrooms.
- •Cisgender women have, however, been attacked in public spaces because someone assumed they were trans. Homophobia is at a very high level right now; don't make it even worse.
- •Excluding trans athletes does not protect anyone. Accusations of being too good or too masculine are sexist terms that harass all participants. There already exist numerous examples of discrimination against women and girls in sports, such as 0ne million FEWER opportunities for high school girls than high school boys; second class facilities and equipment, pay inequities for professional athletes; sexual abuse by doctors and coaches. Please don't make it any worse.