

Mary Linneman  
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LD 233

Senator Anna Carney, Representative Moonen and members of the Judiciary Committee: I am writing in opposition to LD 233, An Act to Prohibit Males from Participating in School Athletic Programs and Activities Designed for Females when State Funding is Provided to the School.

Trans-inclusive policies have long existed, following science-based guidelines as used by the NCAA and the International Olympic Committee. Research shows that transgender athletes perform similar to cisgender athletes and there is no indication of inherent athletic advantage. Biologically, gender is diverse, and not simply binary, and research has shown that performance by males and by females is more comparable than has been traditionally assumed.

It has been shown that class and money contribute to many more advantages than gender, and that the assumption that females are weaker and less athletic promote sexist stereotypes. Also, an anti-trans ban for athletic competition also harms intersex, Black and brown people and those who do not conform to traditional white feminine standards. As Title IX states: discrimination against students due to transgender or sex characteristics is sex discrimination.

I urge you not to pass this bill, but to vote against it, to support all students regardless of gender identification.