

**Minnesota House of Representatives
Testimony for HF12**

“Female sports team participation restricted to the female sex.”

Chair Bennett and Education Policy Committee Members:

I am writing this testimony in support of HF12 that mandates that ONLY the female sex be allowed to participate in girls/womens sports.

Why do we have separate sports designated for females and males in the first place? Why was this ever started? There must have been a reason.

Might it have been to provide a more equitable basis for competition among the sexes? Meaning biological males that generally have higher muscle mass, more strength and weight should not be allowed to dominant over their female counterparts. Furthermore, larger, heavier men are often also restricted in who they compete against in all-male sports. Why are there weight classes for boxers?

The bottom line is that we level the playing field in many of our sports so that individuals can compete against others of similar build, stature or skill level. We have different locations for teeing off in golf for men vs. women, there are handicaps in bowling, etc. etc.

So, why would we want to throw all this past knowledge out the window? Wasn't there an overwhelming mandate in the 2024 election to put an end to forcing our girls and women to compete against males in girls-only sports? Wasn't there an Executive Order to stop this nonsense?

Continuing to ignore Minnesotans, the people of this country and our President strips our girls and women of their opportunity to compete and excel, but even more importantly puts their safety at great risk. We witnessed this just last year when a female was hit by a volleyball spiked by a male player – she is now paralyzed.

This is unacceptable and Minnesotans want our children protected and allow to compete and excel against other biological females.

Mary Jo Baarsch
2640 Raven Lane NW
Backus, MN 56435
HD5A

Dear Members of the Minnesota House of Representatives:

It has come to our attention that despite President Trump's Executive Order disallowing boys to compete in girls' sports, the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL), is still allowing this practice.

Becker County Republicans strongly supports HF12, which would bring Minnesota into compliance with the President's executive order. We believe that girls' sports are to be reserved for girls only, mainly for their safety, but also in the interest of fairness. It is the responsibility of our leadership to ensure the safety of all students, so we strongly encourage you to pass this legislation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

The Republican Party of Becker County Minnesota
Detroit Lakes MN 56502-1551

Supporting HF12 – Jon Fogarty

We (my wife and I) fully support the implementation of HF12. Without this bill, which protects girls in sports, we see some girls not participating in their sports. It seems silly that this is even a discussion/debate. Girls should not feel threatened, intimidated, or having to compete for playing time with males playing in girls sports. We support girls' sports, which means we fully support this bill.

To the Committee:

As a licensed school social worker for over 25 years, as well as a member of MSSWA in good standing, I would like to submit a letter of **support** for HF 12. I applaud this legislation on behalf of the female students with whom I work every day. It saddens me to think that so many in my professional field have become blind to common sense and are doubling down on the dangerous, progressive messages that cause confusion and dissent among our vulnerable youth. I see the damage being done and it represents the opposite of the values I embraced when I first became a social worker. I am hopeful, however, that the many of us who practice social work with a conservative worldview (yes, we do exist!) will now be emboldened to speak truth and compassion on behalf of those we serve, knowing that we have Representatives who are willing to stand on behalf of reason.

If there is anything that I can do to aid in the success of HF12, I welcome the opportunity.

Sincerely,

Amy Anderson

HF 12 – Letter of Support

Hello. I am Laurel Audette, a ninth-grade student from Saint Paul. Thank you for having me here today. I was disappointed to hear that Minnesota has decided to reject the Executive Order addressing transgender athletes competing in sports. This bill is necessary to protect the fairness and safety of women's sports. Female athletes across Minnesota work incredibly hard to succeed in their sport, and for biological males to be allowed to compete alongside women in the same events and possibly come out on top, taking women's places is completely unfair and ruins the enjoyment of sports for women.

When biological males play with or against women, they will often also use the women's locker room, which is unsafe and puts women and young girls at risk. I had an experience when I was in sixth grade where I was changing in a college locker room after swim practice and a biological man who identified as a female walked in on me and came within 5-6 feet of me to grab something from a locker. While this particular event was not during a high school season, it could, and likely will happen to other high school female athletes if this bill does not pass. Speaking from experience, I was uncomfortable beyond words and I would not wish for any other young woman to have to have a biological man see them while they are changing.

In December of 2023, I was in a ski accident in which I broke 5 bones in my back, fractured a rib, punctured a hole in my lung, broke my thumb, tore my MCL, had a hematoma in my lower back, and had a subarachnoid hemorrhage. It was so severe I had to be taken by ambulance to one hospital and airlifted to another. I wanted to get back to swimming as soon as I could. A few weeks later, I got back in the pool, more for physical therapy than for practicing purposes. My practices looked a whole lot different than before, as I was only really able to kick with a board for the first week, and I could only do a couple of lengths before needing a break. Eventually, I was able to swim strokes and start training again, but my body had been through so much trauma, that my times in meets were only going up and my self-confidence was going down. I had lost so much of my technique and endurance, and I am still, a year later, working to get it back.

By the time I started my freshman swim season, I was mostly recovered, however, my times were still not as good as prior to my accident. I worked incredibly hard during my season and finally started to see results as some of my times started to drop. I was able to make the Section team, but despite my hard work, I did not make it to state this year. I have seen my 2 older brothers swim at the state meet and it has become a goal of mine to eventually get there. I cannot imagine having a biological male swim against me and take a spot in the top 16 that get to go to state in an event after all of the hard work, time, and dedication I have given to overcome adversity. Males are scientifically stronger and faster than females, have greater lung capacity, and greater muscle mass. I would be absolutely devastated to see my dream awarded to someone who will always have an advantage over me, just because of the way God created us.

This spring, I am going to participate in track for the first time. While I have been a decent runner for most of my life, increasing miles and intensity in a new sport will definitely come with struggles. Watching biological males who may be new to the sport like me, finish above me and take opportunities from me would be very hard. I acknowledge the fact that there will always be someone better than me in anything I do. Other athletes beating me is not the issue. The problem is that I have no control over how my body is made, and if people who are built to be males are racing against me, it is a given, even if we are training at the same level, that they will have an advantage in winning and placing ahead of me. This fact ruins womens sports because why should we work hard to succeed when our achievements will just be stolen? For the safety and fairness of women's sports, please consider accepting this bill. Thank you for your time.

To: Chair Peggy Bennet

MN House Education Policy Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed bill HF12 A bill for an act relating to education; restricting female sports team participation to the female sex; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 121A.04. This bill aims to ensure that female sports teams at the elementary and secondary school levels remain exclusively for students who are biologically female.

I am an advocate for the fair treatment of female athletes and believe in preserving the integrity of female sports teams. These teams offer young women unique opportunities to compete, develop leadership, and build confidence in environments designed for their biological and physical differences.

I have one daughter that plays volleyball and another daughter that plays basketball. I have concerns for both of their safety as biological males have both height and strength advantages. I have seen videos of girls getting hurt and worry that this could happen to them. Plus I also don't want my daughters to be forced to use the same locker room as a biological male. There are too many questions that don't get answered and we need clarity in order to protect our female athletes.

Allowing biologically male students to compete in female sports creates an uneven playing field, undermining the hard work of young women. Keeping separate teams based on sex ensures equal opportunities and recognition for female athletes.

Please support this bill and ensure that female athletes are given the opportunity to compete on a level playing field. The preservation of female-only sports teams in educational institutions is a vital issue for the future of women's athletics.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Coggins". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the end.

Scott Coggins from Andover

I am writing in favor of the HF12 as it protects our young female athletes and ensures the competition is fair for all females who participate in it. I believe this will positively impact the schools and the students who participate in sports.

Thank you,

Breanna Cox, MSW LISW

School Social Worker

Three Rivers Montessori

Members of the Committee:

My name is Erin B., and I am writing this testimony in support of Representative Scott's HF 12. I am not a lobbyist and am not representing anyone. I am a 3-time State Wrestling champ and was very active in the State Wrestling community in my younger years. Up until recently, Women's Wrestling was not a MSHSL sanctioned sport. This meant that if I wanted to wrestle, I had to wrestle on the only team available, which primarily consisted of men and boys. This was true of many other ladies that wanted to wrestle a few years ago.

While I appreciated the grace that was shown to me, and the kindness that was shown to me by my teammates, this was not an ideal solution for anyone. Young men going through puberty are building muscle even while sitting in class, whereas I had to work twice as hard in the weight room to build not even a quarter of the same amount of muscle. It is a simple fact that young men past the puberty age have natural strength advantages on young women. While wrestling has the advantage of being separated by weight class, not all sports can say the same. This can present a danger to young female athletes, who are generally shorter, less muscular, and with strength disadvantages to young men. I was able to make the choice to compete against and wrestle men, and I knew the risks and that I was at a strength disadvantage. If men are allowed to compete on female-only teams and in female sports, you are taking away that choice from women. You are subjecting them to natural physical disadvantages. You are potentially subjecting them to danger, and you are taking away a place that has historically been a safe haven for teenagers --- sports.

Minnesota has always been a haven for strong young women that want to play physically challenging sports and push themselves to be better. Minnesota was the first state to sanction Women's Hockey back in the 90's, and we had a very strong Women's Wrestling scene many years ahead of our upper-Midwest peers. In fact, back in 2001, the very first Women's Wrestling Fargo National Champion was a 95-pound wrestler from Royalton, Minnesota. Even now, we have a burgeoning push to get Women's High School Rugby sanctioned by the MSHSL. This Bill will not punish the young women that seek to play physical sports, but it will protect them on their female-only teams, and female-only spaces. Minnesota has always been a state that seeks to uplift and support our female athletes. I hope you all will support this Bill and continue that tradition.

I appreciate the opportunity to share my support for HF 12, and hope that Representatives will support this common-sense bill.

Representative Scott's HF12 protects K-12 female sports for girls and young women in Minnesota and is moving this week in the House. I urge you to support her bill and protect girls' access to athletic opportunities.

In 1972, Title IX paved the way for girls and women to have access to athletic opportunities, and athletics have been foundational to many girls' development as contributing members of society. Female athletes have received equal opportunity to compete on a level playing field since Title IX.

In Minnesota, males can be admitted to K-12 female athletic teams and competitions, taking team placements from girls, taking titles previously held by girls, and causing physical harm to girls. Male access to these female teams and competitions has been prioritized over female access.

Biological differences between male and female bodies cannot be ignored in athletics. When these systematic differences are ignored, female athletes unfairly suffer.

Female athletes should have equal opportunity to athletics in Minnesota. Please vote "Yes" on HF12 and protect Minnesota girls' opportunities for athletics.

Thank you,

Ghenadi Gariuc

To: Chair Peggy Bennet MN House Education Policy Committee,

I am writing to express my **STRONG** support for the proposed bill HF12 A bill for an act relating to education; restricting female sports team participation to the female sex: amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 121A.04. This bill aims to ensure that female sports teams at the elementary and secondary school levels remain exclusively for students who are biologically female.

As an advocate for fair treatment of female athletes, I believe preserving the integrity of female sports teams is crucial. These teams offer young women opportunities to compete, develop leadership, and build confidence in environments designed for their biological and physical differences.

I have 2 daughters that have played sports (volleyball, softball and basketball) from childhood all the way up through high school and onto the collegiate level. One has graduated and is now coaching young girls and the younger daughter is just starting her college athletics career. I spent my childhood playing sports and went on to play golf professionally. It is so important that my daughters and all other females play and compete against other females to ensure that they are able to compete in a safe and fair manner. Playing against or with males leads to an unsafe physical environment and robs them of the opportunity to grow as female athletes and leaders.

Allowing biologically male students to compete in female sports creates an uneven playing field, undermining the hard work of young women. Keeping separate teams based on sex ensures equal opportunities and recognition for female athletes.

I strongly encourage you to support this bill and ensure that female athletes are given the opportunity to compete on a level playing field. The preservation of female-only sports teams in educational institutions is a vital issue for the future of women's athletics.

Sincerely,

Shelley Gilk

Brooklyn Park, MN

Please accept this letter of support for the Minnesota State High School League HF12.

Boys/Men and Girls/Women should not be competing in any physical contact sports of any kind in Grade School, High School or College sports in Minnesota or anywhere in our country in Respect to President Trumps Executive Order...

We strongly support the MSHSL HF12.

Please Respect The President of the United States and the High Majority of the People of United State of America, especially the State of Minnesota.

Respectively Yours,

Marv & Carol Hartneck

Hackensack, MN

To whom it may concern,

Regarding HF12, my wife and I support this commonsense issue. We have long lived under the motto of “live and let live”, as long as your choices (rights) do not have an adverse impact on other people’s rights. In other words, you have the right to peacefully protest. However, if your protest shuts down I-94 and impacts other people’s right to get home and spend time with their family, then we have issue with it.

Your individual rights do not supersede someone else’s individual rights.

Living by this motto, we have no issues with LGBTQ in general. However, we do have an issue with males taking away opportunities from females. We were in high school when Title IV was implemented. Back then it took great courage to stand up for women to have the same opportunities as men. Years later, we reaped the benefit of Title IV when our daughter was awarded a full ride scholarship to play DI volleyball. Looking 20 years into the future, following the Biden administrations policies, how many scholarships will be available for biological women?

The Democrats always state that “Science is Fact”. We believe that is true, including the fact that biological men are men and biological women are women.

We support HF12. Let’s bring common sense back into politics.

Dean & Karen Husfeldt
6286 S. Variety Lake Trl NW
Hackensack, MN 56452

"To: Chair Peggy Bennet

From: Kathy Jacobson

MN House Education Policy Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed bill HF12 A bill for an act relating to education; restricting female sports team participation to the female sex; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 121A.04. This bill aims to ensure that female sports teams at the elementary and secondary school levels remain exclusively for students who are biologically female.

As an advocate for fair treatment of female athletes, I believe preserving female sports teams' integrity is crucial. These teams offer young women opportunities to compete, develop leadership, and build confidence in environments designed for their biological and physical differences.

Students who participate in high school sports must be given the safest options as they advance their athletic skills while building character qualities that will help them to grow into well rounded adults. It is not safe to have biological males compete on female teams that have not been designated as co-ed sports. Those who were born as males are endowed with larger and more powerful bodies that, while possibly allowing them to win, will endanger the females on the teams, Biological females playing against or with males leads to an unsafe physical environment and robs girls and their teammates the opportunity to grow as female athletes and leaders.

Allowing biologically male students to compete in female sports creates an uneven playing field, undermining the hard work of young women. Keeping separate teams based on sex ensures equal opportunities and recognition for female athletes.

I encourage you to support this bill and ensure that female athletes are given the opportunity to compete on a level playing field. The preservation of female-only sports teams in educational institutions is a vital issue for the future of women's athletics.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kathy Jacobson

Anoka, Minnesota

I am writing to encourage you to support the HF12 legislation. Only biological girls should be allowed to play in girls sports. This is for the safety of our girls. Our girls should not have to be afraid to engage in athletics. Please support HF12.

Thank you,

Suzanne Lokken

To Whom it May Concern;

My name is Mariah Hines, I am a mother to 2 children who both play sports actively. My daughter is a figure skater, she loves the sport and works hard at it. Her sport requires changing outfits in a locker room. As a mother I am mortified to think that a biological man might one day enter her locker room and change in front of her and her teammates. Women and girls deserve to have these separate spaces that we fought for. We deserve our privacy and protection.

Aside from the locker rooms I find it concerning that I have to tell members of congress that there is in fact a difference between the abilities and men and women. We fought to be able to compete, not with men but with other women. In figure skating a quad jump is a staple for men. It's a high jump with four rotations. Only one woman has ever completed a quad jump during a competition, yet almost every man does. If we let biological men into girl sports things that are near impossible for girls like a quad will become a staple for transgender athletes to use and biological girls will never be able to compete.

Please protect my daughters right to compete, her right to privacy, and her right to protection.

Tiffany Spartz
24731 Cove Trail
Nisswa, MN 56461
Tiffany.spartz@gmail.com
715.619.0881

February 18, 2025

Jody Withers
Committee Administrator of the MN House of Representatives

Subject: HF.12 - Protecting Fairness and Safety in Girls' Athletics

Dear Minnesota House of Representatives,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding policies that allow biological males to compete in girls' athletic events in Minnesota. While inclusivity is an important principle, we must also prioritize fairness, safety, and the security of female athletes. Allowing boys to compete against girls in athletics creates an uneven playing field and raises serious concerns about the well-being of female competitors.

Biological differences between males and females significantly impact athletic performance. Even after medical interventions, males generally retain advantages in muscle mass, bone density, and cardiovascular capacity. These advantages can lead to unfair competition, depriving female athletes of opportunities for scholarships, awards, and advancement in their sports.

Beyond fairness, the physical safety of female athletes is at risk, particularly in contact sports. The differences in size, strength, and speed between male and female athletes can lead to a higher risk of injury for girls who are forced to compete against biologically stronger opponents. Protecting young female athletes from unnecessary physical risk should be a priority for our state.

Additionally, there are concerns regarding the privacy and security of female athletes in locker rooms and other athletic spaces. Girls should feel safe and comfortable in these environments, and policies that compromise their privacy may deter participation in sports altogether. No young female athlete should have to choose between competing in the sport she loves and feeling safe in her training and competition spaces.

Title IX was designed to ensure equal opportunities for female athletes. Allowing biological males to compete in girls' divisions directly contradicts this purpose, reducing opportunities for young women who have trained hard to succeed. Minnesota must take

steps to uphold the integrity of girls' athletics by ensuring that biological females compete against each other on a level playing field.

I urge you and your colleagues in the Minnesota Legislature to take action to protect fairness, safety, and security in girls' sports. This is not about exclusion but about ensuring equal opportunities, safety, and respect for female athletes.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I appreciate your leadership and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tiffany J. Spartz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Tiffany J. Spartz

Proud Mother of a Daughter and Son
Former MN Athlete

To: Chair Peggy Bennet
MN House Education Policy Committee

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed bill HF12. **A Bill for an act relating to education; restricting female sports team participation to the female sex, amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 121A.04.** This bill aims to ensure female sports teams at the elementary & Secondary school levels remain exclusively for students that are biologically female.

As an advocate for fair treatment of female athletes, I believe preserving the integrity of female sports teams is crucial. These teams offer young women opportunities to compete, develop leadership and build confidence in environments designed for their biological & physical differences.

For example, my daughter plays high school volleyball, and it is important that she is playing against only females. Playing against males or with males on her team leads to an unsafe physical environment and robs her and her teammates the opportunity to grow as female athletes and leaders.

Allowing biologically male athletes to compete in female sports creates an uneven playing field, undermining the hard work of young women. Keeping separate teams based on sex ensures equal opportunities and recognition for female athletes.

I encourage you to support this bill and ensure that female athletes are given the opportunity to compete on a level playing field. The preservation of female only sports teams in educational institutions is a vital issue for the future of Women's athletics.

Thank you for your time & consideration,

Sincerely,

Joy Larson
Coon Rapids, MN

To: Chair Peggy Bennet
MN House Education Policy Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed bill HF12 A bill for an act relating to education; restricting female sports team participation to the female sex; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 121A.04. This bill aims to ensure that female sports teams at the elementary and secondary school levels remain exclusively for students who are biologically female.

As an advocate for fair treatment of female athletes, I believe preserving the integrity of female sports teams is crucial. These teams offer young women opportunities to compete, develop leadership, and build confidence in environments designed for their biological and physical differences.

My 3 daughters (12-, 17- & 24-year-old) have played &/or are currently playing volleyball, softball, hockey, and soccer, and it is important that they are playing against only females. Playing against or with males leads to an unsafe physical environment and robs her and her teammates the opportunity to grow as female athletes and leaders.

Allowing biologically male students to compete in female sports creates an uneven playing field, undermining the hard work of young women. Keeping separate teams based on sex ensures equal opportunities and recognition for female athletes.

I encourage you to support this bill and ensure that female athletes are given the opportunity to compete on a level playing field. The preservation of female-only sports teams in educational institutions is a vital issue for the future of women's athletics.

Thank you for your time and consideration!

Sincerely,
Melissa Heck
Andover, MN 55304

To: Chair Peggy Bennet
MN House Education Policy Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed bill F12 A bill for an act relating to education; restricting female sports team participation to the female sex; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 121A.04. This bill aims to ensure that female sports teams at the elementary and secondary school levels remain exclusively for students who are biologically female.

As an advocate for fair treatment of female athletes, I believe preserving the integrity of female sports teams is crucial. These teams offer young women opportunities to compete, develop leadership, and build confidence in environments designed for their biological and physical

My daughter played soccer & softball, and it was important that she played against only females. Playing against or with males leads to an unsafe physical environment and robs her and her teammates the opportunity to grow as female athletes and leaders.

Allowing biologically male students to compete in female sports creates an uneven playing field, undermining the hard work of young women. Keeping separate teams based on sex ensures equal opportunities and recognition for female athletes.

I encourage you to support this bill and ensure that female athletes are given the opportunity to compete on a level playing field. The preservation of female-only sports teams in educational institutions is a vital issue for the future of women's athletics.

Thank you for your time and consideration.
Sincerely,
Hugh Gustafson
Andover, MN

I am writing in strong support of this bill. I have three children now grown and 11 grandchildren. 5 are girls . They participate in contact and non contact sports but would be at a significant disadvantage if required to participate against males. One of them is a very talented young woman who swims and has the potential to swim at college but her dreams would be dashed if required to swim against a male.

The 3 conditions coincide with biological science. Outside of that, there are so many Heart breaking stories of young women participating against males and obviously unable to perform at the level of the male species.

I appreciate your taking this letter into consideration.

Sincerely

Ron Murray

Staples, MN

I am writing to say how opposed I am and how wrong it is to have biological males competing in women sports. It is wrong in many levels including:

1. It reduces the positive impact Title IX has and will have on opportunities for women in the sports field. For every male who competes, it reduces the likelihood that a women will have a chance at winning championship positions.
2. Males are inherently bigger and stronger than women and we have already seen women injured from male participation. It is a dangerous practice and I would say a very strong case for any women injured in this way to sue the district and/or state.
3. This idea that biological males should compete in women's sports belies science and common sense. It is more an ideological push versus anything based on science. Just believing you are a female does not make you one.
4. To risk the safety and security of biological women to accommodate a minority is just plain wrong. If needed establish a transgender league so they can compete against other transgender people.
5. Biological males should not be allowed in women's locker rooms. This again defies common sense and making a majority of women in a locker room to somehow accommodate a very small minority is against what people believe.

Biological males are free to be who they believe they are, but to require any level of acceptance by any other human is just plain wrong and dangerous.

Keep women safe, keep their opportunities safe and keep their locker rooms safe.

No men, transgender men or pretend women in women sports.

Dale Probasco

Honorable member of the House of Representatives Education Policy Committee, Chairman, I'm David Allan Pundt, Deerwood, House District 6A.

A quick scan of the internet finds pictures of some of the 2010's US women's soccer team standing next to tall, strapping young men. They're smiling, they're pointing at each other. They look like they just played a match. And they did. In 2017. Your purple-haired Megan Rapanhoe and the brown headed Carli Lloyd had their pictures taken with the slender guys they played in a scrimmage. That was just before the women's team won all the gold at the 2020 Olympics. The boy's team was the Under-15 FC Dallas team and the boys won! They're not 15! They're under 15! And the boys won! 5-2. They beat the best women's soccer team in the world!

The Minnesota High School Sports League rule that allows athletes to declare a gender, then join the team according to the gender with which they identify, not the one with which they were born. House File 12 would change that, restrict membership on a girl's team to girls. Real girls. Not adjusted or fixed or changed or socially appropriated.

Some examples come to mind. A young high school bowler on a recent WCCO interview admitted to being born male but insisted to the interviewer that he has the same DNA make up as a CIS-gendered girl. Because of this infusion of drugs or that surgical procedure. Bet he's got a mean hook. He also plays soccer.

Henry Hanlon is the captain and super-star of his California high school basketball team. At over six feet tall, he easily gets the ball at least half the time. He's a guy who says he identifies as a girl when it comes to basketball. In some games, he outscores the other team, by himself. Some schools in the same conference have forfeited matches, refused to play, because their girls wouldn't be safe.

Someday, a male pro-basketballer will make the leap. When LeBron James gets too old or has too many injuries to keep up with his younger team-mates and opponents, he hasn't thought it at least once. When he gets to be 50 or 60 or 70 and owns every National Basketball Association record for a man, he'll consider signing up to play for a WNBA. And claim a whole new shelf full of trophies! Don't tell me he's never thought about it. And don't tell me there isn't at least one women's team, maybe three or four who would love to have him.

Forget Donald Trump's executive order. Letting boys play on girls teams is not fair! What a message to send to our young people, that if you're willing to put up with a little social pressure, a snicker or two from the guys in study hall, a giggle as you sashay down the hallway, you can be a super-star.

Thank you for your time and attention.

February 18, 2025

Support for bill HF 12

I support Bill HF 12 and support girls only in girls sports!

I am a Minnesota Grandfather who has lived in Minnesota my whole life. My two grand daughters compete in all of the sports that are available to them; basketball, soft ball and hockey here in Minnesota. They are both very serious and work very hard to be the best at whatever they are doing, especially their sports.

I feel that it is not safe for them to compete against boys nor do I think it would be fair to the girls to be put in a position of having to share their locker room with a biological male.

Please vote for Bill HF 12 to keep our girls safe and to ensure that they have the opportunity to excel fairly in the sports they love.

Thank you,

Theodore Seep

Pequot Lakes, MN

I cannot imagine why anyone with even minimal common sense would oppose this bill. This issues here are:

- personal security and safety: there is considerable risk for unsafe conditions when transgenders are allowed in women's locker rooms
- fairness: this idea has taken gender identity to extreme craziness, men are stronger than women ... period! THat's all you need to know to reject this crazy insane idea.

Warm Regards,

Al Sherwood

Chanhassen, Minnesota

To: Chair Peggy Bennet

MN House Education Policy Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed bill HF12 A bill for an act relating to education; restricting female sports team participation to the female sex; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 121A.04. This bill aims to ensure that female sports teams at the elementary and secondary school levels remain exclusively for students who are biologically female.

As an advocate for fair treatment of female athletes, I believe preserving the integrity of female sports teams is crucial. These teams offer young women opportunities to compete, develop leadership, and build confidence in environments designed for their biological and physical differences.

My niece plays softball and it is important that she is playing against only females. Playing against or with males leads to an unsafe physical environment and robs her and her teammates the opportunity to grow as female athletes and leaders.

Allowing biologically male students to compete in female sports creates an uneven playing field, undermining the hard work of young women. Keeping separate teams based on sex ensures equal opportunities and recognition for female athletes.

I encourage you to support this bill and ensure that female athletes are given the opportunity to compete on a level playing field. The preservation of female-only sports teams in educational institutions is a vital issue for the future of women's athletics.

Sincerely,

Maria Sorensen

Coon Rapids, MN

As a high school track coach who has a daughter in high school sports I am in support for HF12. Girls only in girls sports the only way for a fair and equal competition.

W. Chip Taylor

MSHSL registered coach.

February 17, 2025

Krista Knudson
Minnesota 5A Voting District
House Of Representatives

RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT – BILL HF 12

Congresswoman Knudson:

It has been brought to my attention that you're part of a team leading the resistance to prevent biological males from competing in sports specially limited to girls/ women.

Please consider this letter an acknowledgement that I support House Bill HF 12 that is attempting to reverse the MSHL (Minnesota High School League) decision to allow individuals born as a male from competing against girls/ women in sporting contests.

Title IX was passed to provide women equal rights in the world of athletics/ sports. Allowing individuals who were born as males to compete in sports against women is essentially rolling back Title IX and that is an extremely short sighted decision in my opinion.

Female transgender students made a decision to alter their gender. That may be their right but they certainly don't belong participating in women's athletics. Decisions have consequences and that may be a better lesson than allowing them to receive special privileges that they're clearly not entitled to steal from biological women.

Thank you for leading the battle against this injustice in the State of Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Anthony James Wherley
10531 Golden Eagle Trl
Woodbury, MN 55129

HF 12 – Written Testimony

We (my wife and I) fully support the implementation of HF12 as we have girls in high school sports. Without this bill, which protects our girls in sports, it will affect their decision to participate in the sport that they love. No child (or parent) should need to make this determination, based on the reckless few, who feel that science doesn't apply in this situation. We vote for girls/women, which means we fully support this bill.

Jamie Den Hartog

Nisswa MN

HF 12 - Lysdahl

At the high school level some girls are discovering that they are at a physical disadvantage in contests they once dominated because natural male advantages, including bone structure, heart size, more hemoglobin, leaner body mass, and increased lung capacity, are not eliminated by hormonal therapy, especially if the transition is post-pubescent. Due to the physical advantages boys have if allowed to compete in girls sports puts those girls in danger of physical harm because of the speed and strength advantage boys have. This has resulted in girls school records being eclipsed as well as the loss of scholarships and state championships. The rewards girls believe they had earned on the merits from years of intense training and personal sacrifice are being lost because of a unilateral change in the terms of the competition. Coaches, high schools and colleges may now have strong incentives to actively recruit transgender athletes.

In conclusion, to ensure the safety, security, dignity and rights of our girls, I strongly encourage passage of House File 12.

Yours for a better Minnesota,

Allen Lysdahl

15133 141st Avenue

Wadena, MN. 56482

(218) 640-7000

HF 12 – Support - Paulus

I'm reaching out to you to in support of [HF 12](#). As a mother of two daughters who play sports, and as a former competitive athlete myself, I feel strongly that girls and women should have access to a level playing field. I also have serious concerns for the safety my daughter who plays a contact sport. Given that biological males have larger bone and muscle structures, which no amount of hormone therapy can reverse, competing with them puts her at increased risk of injury.

Thank you for listening, and for ensuring the integrity of girls' and women's sports.

Kay Paulus

Brainerd, MN

HF 12 – Support – Sartell

Please keep girls sports for girls born as girls. Same with boys sports. Create a separate category for transgender individuals.

I have five sisters. Several of my older siblings had no opportunities for organized competitive sports in high school. The two benefit from Title IX and enjoyed sports in high school and college. IMO transgender athletes deride the original intent and principles of Title IX.

A male who transitions to female has a distinct biological advantage over females. Not fair!

As the father of a gay son, I fully support him and his life choices. I cherish my son-in-law and enjoy visiting with - and traveling with - both of them.

But I simply do not believe a biologically born male can fully transition to female, regardless of surgery or hormonal treatments.

Dan Sartell

This is in support of HF12 to keep boys out of girls sports.

Boys have different genetic makeup which enable them to have an advantage in volleyball, basketball, swimming, etc. This unfairly penalizes females in sports.

Biological males typically possess physical advantages such as greater muscle mass and strength, which confers a competitive edge over their female counterparts. For these reasons, allowing biological males to compete in women's Athletics threatens to undermine the achievements and opportunities of biological female athletes.

How many girls have to be hurt by men in sports? Boys are stronger and in volleyball, when they Spike the ball, girls have been known to get head and neck injuries.

A big concern I have is safety for girls. Allowing transgender boys that identify as girls to be in locker rooms with girls is just wrong. As a female, I would be very uncomfortable having a boy in the locker room, especially in the shower. Do we really think it's safe to have boys in showers with girls? That is putting transgender boys needs above all females safety needs. It is saying the safety of females does not matter.

And think of opportunity. Again, it is well known that genetic makeup of boys is different from girls. So now they have an advantage which eliminates girls from having the same opportunity as boys.

Please keep boys out of girls sports.

Lori & Brian Bates

Staples, MN