

February 13, 2023; 1:30 pm
House Committee on Education
Rep. Adam Thomas, Chair

Shannon Skoglund
High school & College athlete

HB2238 – Creating the "fairness in women's sports" act to require that female student athletic teams only include members who are biologically female.

Opponent, Written Only

Chair Thomas and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide Opponent testimony on HB2238.

I write in opposition of keeping trans women and girls out of sports. I'm a cisgender woman who participated in organized sports my entire childhood and into adulthood. As a swimmer and triathlete, I'm not incognizant of certain biological differences between men and women. However I can also state very clearly that biological differences exist between all people. Despite my love of sports, I'm short and prone to plumpness. The playing field is never perfectly level and this should not be used as a reason to exclude.

Youth sports are for youth. ALL children deserve to participate in sports with their friends and peers, regardless of their biological and gender identity. When it comes to competitive sport, the sport organizations themselves are in the best position to determine how best to create equity and fairness, not this body.

Once again, I strongly oppose this measure, a lifetime in sports informing my position.