

Testimony in Support of House Bill 1298

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Good afternoon, and thank you, Madam Chair Larson, and the distinguished members of the Senate Judiciary Committee. I'm the Executive Director of the Women's Liberation Front, a radical feminist organization with members and supporters across the country, including North Dakota. I'm testifying in favor of House Bill 1298, and respectfully request that you render a "DO PASS" on the bill.

Since the passage of Title IX, the ability to participate in competitive athletics has had a huge positive impact on women and girls in the United States. In addition to the benefits of an active lifestyle, participation in sports among girls has been shown to increase academic success, boost self-esteem and confidence, and lead to lower rates of teen pregnancy. Roughly 9 in 10 female corporate executives are former [athletes](#), and about half of them competed at the college level.

Women's athletics are the legacy of every American woman now. Preserving girls' and women's sports is just common sense.

But the fashion of allowing male students to compete in female athletics based on "gender identity" claims puts this progress at risk by costing hard-working women and girls the opportunity to compete in fair and safe sporting competitions. National [polling](#) of 3500 likely voters that we conducted before the 2020 election indicated that 66% of the public shares this view.

The differences in physical strength between the sexes starts before puberty, and is so great that, every year, teen boys break the women's world record times in track. The [best](#) 9-year-old boys can [outrun](#) the best 17-year-old girls. In 2017, a team of boys under-15 beat the US Women's National Team in a soccer scrimmage. The reverse is almost unimaginable.

Everyone knew what a girl was when she was the child who wasn't allowed to run, play, or compete for titles and scholarships, like the boys at her school. Likewise, human beings cannot change sex nor can we change over 6,500 sex differences in [gene expression](#) at the cellular level.

These sex differences are facts, but we don't arm wrestle or hold sprints, to determine who sits in elected office, or who gets to manage the accounting department. Sex differences are facts that need imply no judgement of women's intellectual or ethical fitness for public life. Still, when they matter, they matter a lot.

We all know who a girl is. When a teen girl is dangerously depressed, perhaps because she has been grievously abused, or bullied, or has body dysphoria, she is the sex of person that we do not stop the world to grieve for. The deadliest type of body dysphoric disorder is anorexia nervosa. It almost exclusively affects girls.

It would be inappropriate to threaten teen boys with the guilt of these girls' lives to ask them to give up their own rights and futures, as opponents of girls' sports often do.

I, and many other domestic abuse survivors, have vivid memories of a male partner using suicide threats against me, to back up his inappropriate demands. Eventually I found it in me to say no, and I hope elected officials can find their own courage to resist such improper pleadings if opponents of this bill resort to them.

I ask the committee to think about the futures of the North Dakota girls and women who will continue to benefit from female-only sports.

For these reasons, I ask you to please vote a "DO PASS" out of committee on HB 1298.

Thank you for your time and I would be happy to answer any questions.

