

## **TALKING POINTS to LEGISLATORS re FAIRNESS IN GIRL'S SPORTS**

### **WHY BIOLOGICAL SEX MATTERS IN SPORTS**

**Need to meet them where they are and find similarities - do they have daughters, do they know any female athletes, have they seen instances where males have been stronger than females? Forge common ground.**

**Sports already have a history of separation between sexes, weights, ages – for a reason.....to allow fair competition. We cannot fully alter our physiology no matter time or hormones. Males and females are different.**

**Boys exhibit athletic performance advantages even before puberty. Muscle strength of a female typically is in the range of 40-75% of a male.**

**Remember, this is ONLY FOR GIRL'S COMPETITIVE SPORTS AT THE HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL. Not club, not intramural, not coed, not mixed or open leagues. These girls have goals and investment that need to be recognized and protected as well. They have rights too!**

**High School girls have been proven to be very vulnerable to pressure, acceptance and injury. Often their team is their pack. Taking them out of that environment or making them uncomfortable in it is socially and physically damaging. They have mental health needs too!**

**Biological girls have a right to respect, privacy, safety, and modesty when undressing, taking showers and sleeping quarters on team travel. They should not be forced to undress in front of biological males.**

**The MD General Assembly created a task force in 2015 to study sports injuries in high school female athletes. Their report states that *“differences between the female and male athlete can place the female at higher risk of certain injuries when competing in high school athletics.”* Even if puberty blockers were taken before puberty, they will not equalize physiology or make a male into a female.**

**Given that finding, is it safe or fair for High School competitive female athletes to not only deal with the range of injuries and abilities that occur within female sports, to also be subjected to those of males?**

**This is not about exclusion, but to acknowledge differences. Science proves there are male advantages that cannot be undone. Hormones taken after puberty do not undue traits. Hormones taken prior will not make a male into a female! Changing outside looks does not equate!**

**Over 20 states so far, and increasing, have adopted laws protecting women's opportunities in sports. Over 20 have court injunctions to delay implementation of new Title IX regulations that allow gender identity to determine sex.**

**Historically, biological differences between males and females leave females more vulnerable and more discriminated against. This warrants separation of spaces, teams and other areas for safety and privacy.**

**Birth sex is used as a basis to collect data for many legal and societal realms – census, anti-discrimination laws, crime, health and economic data. Birth sex is a valid determination.**

**LEGAL STATUS under review by states across the country – *Federal government cannot enforce its re-interpretation of Title IX protections to include gender identity revision.***

**Notes from Debbie Yatsuk  
October 2024**