

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

Karen Fritz
Miami County resident, Mother, Grandmother, Health Care Provide

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 am a mother of 3 girls, a grandmother of 3 girls, and a healthcare provider who listens to women's stories.

I am opposed to HB2238.

I am opposed to any legislation brought up for NON-issues. The KSHSAA is the organization that deals with regulating sports in schools across the state. If there is an ACTUAL issue in sports in schools in Kansas, they are the organization to act, not the Legislature.

I know three trans women. Their lives are not a decision to manipulate competitions, but to live their personal reality. Their lives have been very difficult, but continuing to live as male was existentially impossible.

Trans people experience personal risks due to bigotry, prejudice, and efforts by a minority to make their lives difficult or impossible. Please don't legislate things to make their lives and existence more difficult.

Consider the economics, too. Companies looking at coming to Kansas consider issues that will adversely affect their employees and families in decision-making.

It appears that the Legislature is reacting to pressures by a minority of Kansans, from a religious minority viewpoint. I am firmly against ANY legislation brought up for religious or denominational reasons. State and Church should be separate. Legislation should be for all Kansans, not led by a religion or denomination.

I suggest that legislators get back to traditional Republican ideals of keeping the government out of personal lives, religion out of politics, and supporting public education for all.

Again, I oppose HB2238 and hope the Committee doesn't bow to pressure to legislate a NON-issue.