

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

Kay Heley
Grandparent, retired school nurse

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.

My name is Kay Heley. I am a retired school nurse and love my 20 month old grandchild. I oppose HB 2238 because I want my grandchild and all children to fully participate in every activity they choose, including athletics.

As a school nurse, I worked with the family of a 4 year old who clearly knew his gender identity long before he knew any terms or consequences. I worked with families of secondary students who endured a lot of pain and agony to become who they really are. This is not a choice. These students face bullying and an increased chance of violence and suicide.

Please leave determining participation in athletics to KSHSAA. Please do not add to the burden of the small number of Kansas transgendered youth who are athletes.

We all want the best for our grandchildren. None of us has a crystal ball to determine the future gender identity of our precious children. For some it is earlier, for others it is later. Please oppose HB 2238. Thank you for your consideration.