

SPEAK UP FOR TRANS GIRLS IN ALASKA SCHOOL SPORTS



ABOUT HB 183

HB 183 states that a student who participates in an athletic team or sport designated for girls, “must be female, based on the participant's biological sex as either female or male, as designated at the participant's birth.”

HB 183 would allow for an athlete's birth certificate to establish the sex assigned at birth, but only if the sex was designated at or near the time of birth. The bill otherwise provides no guidance for how schools should implement the requirements, which adds to the risk that students' rights will be violated through invasive exams or disclosure of sensitive health information.

HB 183 is a carbon copy of SB 140, which Alaskans roundly rejected in 2022. The legislature should not be taking up bills that their constituents have demonstrated they oppose.

HB 183 works to codify the August 2023 decision by the Department of Education & Early Development to prohibit trans girls from participating in school sports across the state of Alaska.

This bill violates Equal Protection Clauses in the Alaska and US Constitutions. Public schools cannot single out LGBTQIA2S+ students for negative treatment.

This regulation is in violation of privacy rights. Requiring birth certificates is a violation of the constitutional privacy rights of Alaskan children.

Trans students participate in sports for the same reasons other young people do: to challenge themselves, improve fitness, and be part of a team. If passed, this bill would deprive student-athletes of opportunities available to their peers and send the message that they are not worthy of a full life.

Trans girls are girls – and barring them from competing on teams aligning with their gender identity effectively excludes them from participating at all. This jeopardizes their mental health, physical well-being, and ability to access education opportunities comparable to their peers.

School athletics in Alaska are a time-honored tradition that gives youth the ability to work with their peers, develop critical leadership skills, and find community. All students, regardless of their gender identity, deserve the opportunity to compete in school sports.

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HOW TO TESTIFY

The House Education Committee is hearing this bill at 8 a.m. on Monday, March 25th. Call 15 minutes before the hearing and ask to testify on HB 183 in the House Education Committee.

Anchorage 907-563-9085
Juneau 907-586-9085
All other locations 844-586-9085

TESTIMONY STRUCTURE

Introduce yourself, community name, and title (if testifying on behalf of an organization or group).

State that you are opposed to HB 183.

State why you are opposed to the bill, and include 1-3 talking points.

Restate that you oppose HB 183, and want the committee to reject the bill.

Thank the committee for hearing public testimony.

“Hello, my name is _____, and I’m a resident of [community]. I am testifying in opposition to HB 183 because trans girls deserve to play sports just like any other Alaskan student-athlete. This bill is discriminatory and violates constitutional rights to equal protection and privacy under the law. Please oppose HB 183 to protect all young Alaskans. Thank you for hearing public testimony.”

Can’t testify in person? Send an email instead.
Send an email to house.education@akleg.gov to oppose HB 183.
[Use the ACLU of Alaska’s online form to send an email.](#)