

## **Lou Mansolillo**

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**From:** Allison Seeley <aseeley.m@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 3:45 PM  
**To:** House Education Committee  
**Subject:** Testimony in Opposition of H 5842

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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Dear Chair McNamara and Committee Members,

I am a Rhode Island resident testifying in strong opposition to the Fairness in Women's Sports Act (H 5842). This bill puts not only transgender students, but also female students at significant risk of harm. Excluding trans students from athletic programs is wrong not just because it is a form of unjust discrimination, but also because there is absolutely NO evidence to support the need for this type of legislation. Trans students are simply trying to live life according to their gender identities. Joining the sports team of their gender does not put anyone at risk and is in fact a protective opportunity. Youth, in general, regardless of gender, have improved life and health outcomes when they have access to extra curricular activities.

This type of legislation is simply creating more opportunities for child abuse - exposing all youth (trans and cisgender youth) to being subjected to having to "prove their gender", which many people believe gender to be associated with genitals. This is absolutely inappropriate and an extreme violation of human rights. We MUST NOT allow H 5842 to move forward. Certainly not if we wish to move Rhode Island forward to a state that prioritizes human rights for all.

Thank you for receiving my testimony.

Sincerely,

Allison Seeley, MPH

Resident of Pawtucket, RI 02860