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April 22, 2025

House Committee on Education
State of Rhode Island General Assembly

Testimony Against *H-5842*

Dear Members of the House Committee on Education,

I'm a trans woman and am writing you today to request that you vote against *H-5842* which is known as the *Fairness In Women's Sports Act*. My reason is that what it proposes is a ban of all transgender girls/women, if we even have any at the present time, who want to compete in the sports division(s) where they belong. *Such a blanket ban is in my opinion unfair to them.*

SECTION 1. (1)-(5) lists the main reasons for having this ban as being due to the physical differences between males and females. Those differences which occur during puberty are what gives males a physical advantage. Without having gone through male puberty a trans girl or woman will have no innate advantage over competitors who were born female. *This bill would not be fair to them.*

In 2022 twelve years old Chloe Ross won the *co-ed* Rhode Island middle school wrestling championship. She won her title by defeating boys who had either just begun or hadn't begun puberty. *Without the benefits of what puberty brings, those boys had no innate advantage.*

In *SECTION 1. (11)*, while it mentions puberty blockers, the results stated deal with trans women who have gone through puberty and have received "cross sex hormones", which is commonly referred to as "hormone replacement therapy" or HRT for short. *It is not a result from a study of trans girls who are being treated with puberty blockers.*

I believe that if fairness on the playing field is truly the reason for bills like this, then a fair compromise can be reached between those on both sides of this controversy.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my opinion. Have a great day!

Yours truly,

Emily Trott