

Public Comment
Interscholastic Activities
Week 1: June 21, 2023 - June 24, 2023

From: [Jeanne Ashcraft](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Do NOT support targeting transgender girls in Alaska
Date: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 2:46:05 PM

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I am a resident of Anchorage. I do not support the proposal to forbid transgender girls to play on girls' sports teams in our public schools. This proposed legislation directly harms our trans youth, their families and loved ones, their friends, their classmates, and almost worst of all, signals to our community that prejudice against any members of our communities is allowed.

I believe this is mean, it is cruel, it is unnecessary, and it is a made-up problem based on the chosen personal ideology of one group of people.

Please honor the rights of all Alaskans and do not pass this legislation.

Thank you,

[Jeanne Ashcraft](#)



From: [Loren Leman](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protecting Girls' Sports in Alaska
Date: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 11:09:19 AM

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Dear Alaska State Board of Education & Early Development:

Thank you for asking my opinion about how we should protect girls' sports in Alaska.

I am a parent of two daughters who were athletes in high school in Alaska. Competing against other girls was challenging for them, but they worked hard, improved their skills, excelled, made friends, and learned good life lessons. My wife Carolyn and I now have five granddaughters who are beginning to exhibit interest and talent in athletics. They are enjoying their competitions and we want the same life experiences for them. While we enjoy and support selected mixed athletic competition, for example club hockey for younger children and mixed-6 volleyball for smaller high schools in Alaska that have difficulty recruiting a full team for girls only, other sports reserved for girls only should rightfully be protected.

Your proposed policy change in 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5) will protect against unfair competition from biological males that leads to the destruction of girls athletics. It still allows ample opportunity for all interscholastic athletes. I support it.

Loren Leman
[REDACTED]

From: [Alaska Online Public Notices](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: New Comment on NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES ON INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES IN THE REGULATIONS OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT
Date: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 11:01:19 AM

A new comment has been submitted on the public notice [NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES ON INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES IN THE REGULATIONS OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT](#).

Submitted:

6/21/2023 11:01:14 AM

Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Anonymous User

Comment:

June 21, 2023

To: State Board of Education and Early Development
Re: Proposed change on school district interscholastic activities

The Matanuska Susitna Borough School District (MSBSD) School Board created and adopted Board Policy 6145 in June of 2022 to address concerns that an "uneven playing field" could be created for biological females if biological males were allowed to participate on girls athletic teams. The pertinent language in the MSBSD policy is attached below and may help inform the decision that the State Board of Education and Early Development is considering. The MSBSD School Board heard robust comments on this subject during the adoption process, however no formal complaints have been filed with the district since the adoption of Board Policy 6145.

MSBSD BP 6145

Extra Curricular and Co-Curricular Activities

Designation of Athletic Teams and Sports

a) The School Board recognizes:

1. Maintaining fairness in athletic opportunities for women is an important district interest;
2. Requiring the designation of separate sex-specific athletic teams or sports is necessary to maintain fairness in athletic opportunities for women;
3. Significant biological and physiological differences between males and females, including greater strength, speed, and endurance capabilities among males on average, provide a competitive advantage to male athletes in sports; and
4. Having separate sex-specific teams furthers efforts to promote sex equality and that discrimination against women and girls in sports is counter to that effort.

b) It is the intent of the School Board to preserve an even playing field in school athletic programs within the District, to maintain opportunities for female athletes to demonstrate their strength, skills, and athletic abilities, and to provide female athletes with opportunities to obtain recognition and accolades, college scholarships, and the numerous other long-term benefits that result from participating and competing in athletic endeavors.

c) Each school within the District, whose students or teams compete against other schools, must designate each school-sponsored athletic team or sport a:

1. male, men, or boys team or sport;

2. female, women, or girls team or sport; or
3. coeducational or mixed team or sport.

d) A student who participates in an athletic team or sport designated female, women, or girls must be female, based on the participant's biological sex as either female or male, as designated at the participant's birth. The biological sex listed on a participant's birth certificate may be relied on to establish the participant's biological sex designated at the participant's birth if the sex designated on the birth certificate was designated at or near the time of the participant's birth.

"school" means an elementary, junior high, or secondary school.

You can review all comments on this notice by [clicking here](#).

[Alaska Online Public Notices](#)

From: [Alaska Online Public Notices](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: New Comment on NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES ON INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES IN THE REGULATIONS OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT
Date: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 12:58:30 PM

A new comment has been submitted on the public notice [NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES ON INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES IN THE REGULATIONS OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT](#).

Submitted:

6/21/2023 12:58:24 PM

Unknown location
Anonymous User

Comment:

The current interest and zeitgeist focused on these regulatory changes feels malicious. Why do certain competitive and contact sports need to be limited to girls/ young women who are assigned female at birth, especially since less than 1% of students who currently participate don't fall under that category? It isn't because students are complaining about their classmates being transgender. I graduated from ASD having done sports for 4 years as a young woman. I can't think of a single earnest complaint I heard at any time, even as people made jokes at other people's expense. The desire to solve this presumed inequity, understanding that no one affected is complaining about it as a real issue, feels like an excuse to target these kids for being different. I can't lie and say that it feels anything other than mean spirited to target children under the banner of saving girls sports teams. I don't agree with this proposed change.

You can review all comments on this notice by [clicking here](#).

[Alaska Online Public Notices](#)

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 11:46:01 AM

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Boys for boys
Girls for girls
Trans for trans
!!!!

From: [Abigail Elbow](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: comment on transgender ban (changes to 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5))
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 4:18:33 PM

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I would like to register my comment against the proposed changes to 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5). It is unnecessarily punitive and divisive. I am a cis-gendered female, and while I acknowledge how incredibly complicated the issue of trans athletes in sports is, this ban is inappropriate and not good for Alaska or its kids.

Thanks,
Abigail Elbow

From: [Allen Shattuck](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Transgender sports rules
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 10:03:54 AM

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I am in favor of the proposed rules.

Allen Shattuck

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [B.Nnb](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Rule Limiting Transgender Participation in Female Sports
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 11:32:17 PM

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Dear Alaska School State Board Members,

I am writing in full support of the proposed rule limiting girl's participation on high school sports teams to "females assigned that gender at birth." I hope this rule will also apply to middle school sports teams as well, since both of my two sons began puberty in middle school years.

I have witnessed changes to my boys' anatomy and physiology with the advent of puberty; changes that make their bone structure, muscle mass, very different from my own, as a biological female.

These anatomical differences would give them a competitive advantage.

I have seen my boys through various challenges and triumphs in their childhood, as I am certain other parents have experienced. Being a kid is tough. Navigating childhood is tough, and the isolation all our kids experienced during the pandemic made figuring it all out difficult. I am empathetic to challenges transgender women face, however, they should not be competing against biological women.

I identify as:

1. An Alaskan resident, and mother.
2. A former high-school female athlete.
3. A mom of two boys, who can attest to both muscle mass and bone growth changes attributed to onset of puberty.
4. A victim of teenage sexual assault, which would have made sharing a locker room with a transgender woman uncomfortable/ impossible, forcing me to withdraw from the sport I had spent a lifetime training.

For these reasons, I fully support your rule of limiting girl's participation on (middle) and high school sports teams to "female gender assigned at birth."

Thank you for your time,

Amy Lefler
[REDACTED]

From: [Anne Kelly](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Do not adopt changes to 4 AAC 06
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 8:23:08 PM

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To the Alaska Board of Education,

I am strongly opposed to the changes proposed to 4 AAC 06, related to interscholastic activities and urge the Board not to adopt this change. According to the public notice, the Board of Education is proposing the following change to the AAC: 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5) is proposed to be changed as follows: to require nonprofit associations that administer and promote interscholastic activities in Alaska to ensure fairness, safety, and equal opportunity for female students in high school athletics by limiting participation in separate high school athletics teams for female students in competitive or contact sports to females who were assigned female at birth.

I was born and raised in Alaska, and have been a competitive athlete since elementary school in Anchorage. I cannot emphasize enough how important sports were to my development as a young woman in high school. Competitive cross-country skiing, martial arts, and running helped me develop the resiliency, discipline and teamwork to succeed in my post-education professional life. Providing these opportunities to ALL students is essential for their lifelong mental and physical health.

It is abhorrent that the Board of Education would seek to deny these opportunities to trans girls. There is no evidence that trans girls' participation in sports detracts in any way from the opportunities available for cis-gendered girls, and this change to the AAC is a solution in search of a problem. It is barely disguised bigotry masquerading as concern for female athletes, and it is incredibly harmful to trans girls who already face appalling levels of harassment, assaults and suicidal ideation. As a young student athlete, I would have happily had trans girls as teammates and competitors. I compete with and share locker rooms with trans women in my daily exercise. I see how the demonization makes these women - my friends - fearful, and they have very few spaces to simply exist and do normal, healthy activities without being under attack.

Sports are a refuge for many students, and one of the primary benefits of participation in sports is the opportunity to meet and play with people who are different from you. Denying trans girls the right to participate in organized athletics isolates them, promotes hatred and distrust of trans people generally, and does absolutely nothing to benefit female athletes. Please do not adopt this incredibly harmful change to the AAC.

Anne Kelly
Alaska Resident

From: [Barbara Martin](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Transgender in sports
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 4:01:58 PM

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Hello,

I would like to comment that these girls work very hard and are serious about their sports. To allow transgender boys to compete on girls sports teams is unfair. Whether they are transgender or not, they still have the biological advantage of boys that puts them at an unfair advantage over girls. I say vote NO.

Sincerely,

Barbara Martin

From: [Brian Sparks](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Transgender Athletes
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 8:52:03 PM

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Hi Commissioner,

My name is Brian Sparks, I live in Juneau.

Schooling is at its best when it connects students with one another, creating supportive communities from which the next generation can begin building skills to participate in and lead our society & economy forward.

And schooling is at its worst when it seeks to isolate students from one another. At its worst when students feel they need to hide in order to survive.

I do not know what it is like to transition from one sex to another. I imagine it is a difficult and isolating process. It should not be our policy to make it more difficult and more isolating.

Transgender folks are already singled out for bullying and for violence, in high school and throughout their lives. It should not be school policy to participate in that.

Let it not be Alaska's policy to limit sports participation to assigned sex.

Brian Sparks
[REDACTED]

From: [Cheryl & Mark Lovegreen](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment on Proposed Changes on Interscholastic Activities
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 10:20:45 PM

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Thank you to the board for taking comments from the public. I'm Cheryl Lovegreen in Anchorage, speaking as an individual. I am concerned about the proposed resolution 02-2023, and any other proposed changes that target trans children in education.

First, I think the proposed changes will start Alaska on a slippery slope. If we say that certain girls can't play together because of the slim chance of unfair competition, why stop at trans girls? Why not say that girls over 6 feet tall can't compete with shorter girls? Or that girls with naturally more muscular bodies can't compete against skinny girls? Instead of stacking the deck based on who might possibly win a particular game or tournament, it seems better to let girls of all body shapes and sizes compete together.

Second, despite the claim "policies governing sports should be based on sound medical knowledge and scientific validity," this resolution is not based on fact or science. There are no documented Alaskan cases of a trans girl athlete pushing out another girl in competition. The American Medical Association and other groups have endorsed hormone treatment for gender transitions. A federal judge recently ruled against an anti-trans case because of the medical knowledge that "gender identity is real" and that discrimination against trans minors is likely to be unconstitutional. I don't understand why the Alaska state Board of Education wants to wade into this highly controversial and probably illegal resolution.

The board's vision includes "All students can... exemplify the best values of society; and be effective in improving the character and quality of the world around them." As board member Myers has stated so eloquently, this resolution does not live up to the best values of society, instead "focusing on a tiny culture war issue that is not a real issue, but does in fact hurt and delegitimize what the students of this state are going through...is below us." It is illegal, and morally wrong, to discriminate against a group of students. I urge the board to vote against this proposed resolution. Please return to working on substantive issues that can improve public education in Alaska.

I thank you for your time.

Cheryl Lovegreen

From: [wilkench](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Public comment, proposed 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5) amendment
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 7:19:29 AM

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DEED Commissioner:

This comment is re: proposed regulatory amendments to [4 AAC 06.115\(b\)\(5\)](#).

The proposed changes are harmful to all Alaska students and should be quickly rejected. They are mean-spirited and clearly discriminate against trans youth in Alaska, whose participation in school-sponsored activities is protected by state and federal anti-discrimination laws.

The proposed regulations go against the recommendation from national experts such as the [Transgender Law and Policy Institute](#) that *"All young people should have the opportunity to play recreational sports and have their personal dignity respected."*

As a practical matter, passing these regulations will spark a costly, losing legal fight for the State of Alaska during a time when its resources are obviously needed for education, not lawyers. Similar regulations in Washington state and West Virginia have been fought in court in 2023, and at every step the rights of trans athletes have been upheld (including by the [U.S. Supreme Court](#)).

If the proposed regulatory amendments are political in nature, rather than educational, Alaska appears to be trying to join a [discrimination club](#) with most of the deep South. Do states like Arkansas, Alabama and Texas really provide the kinds of school experiences Alaska wants for its children?

Reject, be good, use resources for kids and classrooms.

Chris Wilkens
[REDACTED]

From: [Christina Moore](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Boys in girls sports
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 6:44:11 PM

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I think this legislation is not only a good thing but also a necessary step in protecting our girls in sports events. It has been scientifically proven repeatedly that boys are stronger than girls. If confused boys want to participate in sports then they should have their own category. Female athletes work very hard to be good at what they do and it is just wrong when they are forced to compete against boys who couldn't cut it in male sports.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Trans and discrimination
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 9:32:23 AM

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Dan Bylsma here, Nip this in the bud while you can. Any kid, parent, or guardian (including those unknown to parents or guardians) allowing or encouraging trans physical effects to a child is a derelict in their duty. Mental and physical consequences will take a greater toll on a person later in life than any stress or trauma they are enduring as a minor. To allow them to compete against girls of birth is unfair and dangerous. If you fail to address this now it will snowball eventually.

Dan

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Daniel Cox](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5) Opinion
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 4:54:49 PM

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I Daniel Cox, Anchorage resident of 20+ years, SUPPORT this proposal to limit participation on girls high school sports teams to “females who were assigned female at birth.”

We will be living in the twilight zone if we allow males to play against females in sports or allow them in female locker rooms. Women deserve our respect and protection of their privacy and right to a fair sports competition, and to feel safe and secure in their locker room and while competing.

From: [David Brenner](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Transgender girls in sports
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 6:27:52 AM

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Hello-

I would like to say that I am 100% against allowing transgender girls/women to compete against biological females in sporting competitions. I'd go further into why but know you won't really read it. This is ruining girls' sports and our culture!

David Brenner

From: [Denise Petrash](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: protecting girls' sports and ensuring fairness
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:19:23 PM

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As a woman who has been a tomboy her entire life, yet still identifies as a biological female, I feel it is imperative that girls' sports be protected throughout Alaska.

Biological males have scientifically documented physical advantages when compared to biological females. Female sports participants have the right to compete on a biologically level playing field. As a woman, I am tired of seeing female rights trampled under the guise of being politically correct.

Thank you for allowing us to express our opinions on these proposed changes. I sincerely hope that you will do the right thing and protect female sports by limiting their participation to biological females.

Regards,
Denise Petrash
[REDACTED]

From: [Dennis Johnston](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Limited transgirls
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 11:19:55 PM

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Sounds like a sneaky underhanded way to allow biological males to play with girls.
NO. Biological males only play on biological male sports and biological females only play on biological female sports.
Change the wording on this measure to be up front and honest.

From: [D.L](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Changes to 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5)
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 12:02:20 PM

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I am writing in opposition to the changes proposed to 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5). This is a solution in search of a problem. Transgender athletes belong on the teams of their gender identity. This regulation will only increase government oversight and invade the privacy of students. Do we really want parents and school officials questioning children about their genitals? Because this proposed change would result in students that don't present "feminine" enough being questioned. I'm against government overreach and this reeks of it. Lets instead focus on fostering an inclusive environment that encourages more participation in sports instead of attempting to target and ostracize a very small minority.

Sincerely

Don Larson

From: [Eleanor Poe](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Public comment on proposed amendment to 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5)
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 11:33:41 AM

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Hello everyone, I am writing in strong opposition to this proposed amendment. Transgender students already face harassment and judgement from their peers. Being a trans kid in a school is a difficult experience no matter what. This proposal to ban trans girls from girl's sports teams would further this unfriendly environment. Something we need to understand is that trans girls are girls. No ifs, buts, or ands. Separating people based on the way their bodies look shouldn't even be something we are considering. Do not make the lives of transgender students worse than they already are by putting them into some sort of "other" category. Keep children safe and let them know they belong in the world. We have a long way to go before every child feels that way, but we can start by rejecting this amendment. Thank you for your consideration.

From: [Emily Wright](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment: 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5)
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 10:13:45 AM

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To start, even though I don't believe this should be necessary - I am female, and I was assigned female at birth. I participated in athletics every season all through elementary, middle, and high school.

I strongly opposed the proposed regulations changes to 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5).

I don't want to claim that my words will suddenly cause an epiphany to those who are supporting this change, what I want to say is - my voice is clear, my position is unwavering, and my public comment is "no!"

As I was watching the Gold Rush Days lumberjack competitions this weekend in Juneau, I saw amazing kids, teens, and adults giving it their all (and frankly being amazing). Our cheers were for them as they are ... not based on their assignment at birth.

Please do not implement these regulation changes.

Thank-you.
Emily Wright
[REDACTED]

From: [Eric Schneider](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Comment period for transgender sports rules changes is too short
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 1:01:24 PM

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Sir/Ma'am--

I urge that the comment period regarding restricting transgender persons participation in sports be extended.

30 days in the middle of the summer, when people are traveling and such, is not the right time for the comment period on an issue that affects the school year.

The comment period for an issue this important should be at least 90 days, to ensure that it includes school time.

Since some sports already have pre-season practices happening now (or very soon), there should not be any rules changes this coming year, anyway, so there is no reason for a short comment period.

Please extend the comment period so there can be a reasonable discussion of this issue before making a decision.

Respectfully,

Eric Schneider
[REDACTED]

From: [Erin McGowan](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: public comment period on rule limiting transgender girls in high school sports
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 1:23:21 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I am against passing any law that discriminates against a specific group of people. Don't jump on this political bandwagon for a "solution" to a "problem" that does not exist. This is NOT a problem. Politicians have just made it one as a distraction. States that have passed these laws even admit the law only affects like 3 transgender girls trying to play a sport in the entire state..... You want to pass a law to stop less than handful of transgender girls from playing a sport? That's discrimination. Just don't go there. Let them play. The other states passing these laws, distracting from REAL ISSUES in their states, make a mockery of their state government. They look ridiculous putting time and money towards blocking less than a handful of girls from participating in a SPORT. ITS A GAME. LET THEM PLAY.

--

Erin Rose McGowan, CCEP

[REDACTED]

From: [Faith Rose](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Comment on Proposed Amendment to 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5) to add Subsection (d)
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 11:46:48 AM

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Dear DEED Commissioner McKenzie, **I urge you not to support nor approve the proposed amendment to 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5) to add a new subsection (D) that would prohibit transgender girls from participating in high school sports limited to those assigned "female" sex at birth.** Gender identity is a complex and highly personal issue that has everything to do with fairness to the individual who is electing to transition from the gender associated with their biology, that was "assigned" to them by others when they were born, to the gender they truly identify with and choose for themselves. Biology is itself a spectrum with over 144,000,000 people on this planet born "intersex" with biological characteristics of both male and female sex. Clearly then, biology alone cannot be the sole determining factor that governs gender in the human species.

Moreover, sex and gender identity are not the same thing. Gender identity is an internally chosen sense of who you - based on your own personal experience of being male, female, both or neither. No one has the right to "legislate" gender identity for another human being.

To prohibit young transgender women from participating on sports teams with other young women, is to judge and stigmatize them, and paternalistically decide for them who they can and cannot be as a human being. Haven't women had enough of other's acting paternally to "protect them" by legislating what they can and cannot do in this world? As an attorney and member of the Alaska Bar Association for the last 33 years, I am immensely proud and grateful to have had a long and successful career practicing law in The Great Land. Yet had I been born just two generations earlier, I would not have been able to take a Bar examination, or practice law at all, because the prevailing thinking of the day was that women had to be "protected" from the rigors of the legal profession!

Think about it. Female bonding through sports in high school creates the opportunity for team spirit, and true "sportsmanship" - which is based on fairness and team support of the incredible things we can achieve through our indomitable human spirit. In Alaska we should support all of our young woman, not just those who were fortunate enough to be born with biological sex assigned at birth that happens to match the sex they experience and identify for themselves within. In Alaska we should foster young women who do not need to be paternalistically protected from the genuine diversity that exists in society all around them. In Alaska we should not pass restrictive and stigmatizing regulations that limit the life experience of our young people.

In closing, again, **I urge you not to support or approve the proposed amendment to 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5)**. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my comments in respectful, civil discourse on this proposed regulation. Sincerely, Erin "Faith" Rose, Esq. Attorney at Law licensed to practice in Alaska, California and Florida, and professional Artist working in stained glass, bead work and portraits/landscapes in acrylics.

From: [Geoffrey Hershberger](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Transgenderism is mental illness
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 5:54:23 PM

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You are correct to not allow transgender males participate in girls sports.

Follow the science. Males are males, females are females. Start a third team category...girls only, boys only and boys and girls. Wasn't that called intramural?

Time to clamp down on mental illness. Keep it out of our schools and away from our kids.

From: [Geri Brigham](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Girls sports
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:16:50 PM

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As you receive public comment on who should be allowed to participate in girl's sports, I hope that you will honor and respect those that have stayed true to developing more opportunities for girls. And by this I mean girls that are biologically female from their moment of conception.

Anyone with a basic knowledge of anatomy and biology has to acknowledge that there is a difference between male and female. Just because someone wants to be something different does not negate the facts of science.

Many girls that I know work hard to advance their skills and abilities to achieve success in the sports they are involved in. By allowing biological males to compete against girls, is a disrespectful slam to the efforts and accomplishments these girls have worked to achieve.

There are co-ed sports available that can include those who are gender confused. Please do not push families to abandon athletic sportsmanship. I would not have allowed my daughter to play sports if she had to be subjected to sharing female only facilities (showers, overnight road trips, etc.) with biological males.

There is a difference between boys and girls. Let's keep that in mind when coming to a consensus on this issue.

Sincerely,

Geri Brigham

From: [Bwoody Ham](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Public comment
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 11:03:27 AM

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Dear Commissioner

This email serves as my support to limit participation on girls sports teams to females who were assigned female at birth.

As a middle school, high school, and college athlete the protection of women sports is very important for equal protection under the 14th Amendment, as well as to provide equal opportunity for all females to participate in sports.

Allowing men assigned as male at birth to participate in female sports does not provide women protection under the 14th Amendment. One does not see an overwhelming movement of women trying to compete with men in men's sports, so why do women have to accept this?

What about Trans sports? That way Trans people can still participate in sports but are more in line with their identity and on an equal playing field.

Women can not compete with men through sports. I know I have tried and although I was a good athlete, I couldn't outrun, out hit, out shoot any male. Please don't make us have to continue to battle for our equal rights.

Sincerely,
Heather Meuret

From: [Janet Johnston](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Against transgender sports ban
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 9:45:02 PM

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Dear DEED,

I am writing to express my disapproval of the proposed statewide ban on transgender girls participating in girls' high school sports. I believe a statewide ban is not needed. The current system of allowing individual schools or school districts to decide on a case-by-case basis is working and does not need to be changed.

My general approach is, if it ain't broken don't fix it. The current system is not broken and should be left as is.

Thank you,
Janet Johnston

--

From: [Jason Grabowski](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5)
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 12:51:05 PM

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The recent amendment proposal to 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5) is blatantly unconstitutional. It segregates and treats differently boys and girls. The rules would have to apply to both to be legal. What's the process to identify gender/sex? Birth Certificates may not be accurate for biological gender. Is a visual inspection necessary? Only 1 Male Alaskan athlete has been competitive at a championship level in recent memory. This amendment is a solution lookin for a problem that stigmatizes trans youth.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jason Norris](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Cc: [Fields, James K \(EED\)](#); [Van Diest, Lorri A \(EED\)](#); [Erickson, Jeffrey D \(EED\)](#); [Griffin, Bob \(EED sponsored\)](#); [Stockhausen, Sally \(EED\)](#); [Fowley, James W \(EED\)](#)
Subject: Resolution 02-2023
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 6:37:32 PM

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Board Members,

I write respectfully in opposition to the proposed policies contained in Resolution 02-2023. Please allow me the opportunity to elucidate. I apologize for the length of my comments, but I hope they provide perspective that is beneficial.

I would like to begin by pointing out that these policies are broadly unpopular with the people of Alaska. As I am sure you are all aware, over multiple recent rounds of public testimony, the people of Alaska testified overwhelmingly against just the type of discriminatory, inflammatory, and dangerous kind of policy in HB 105 that you propose in this resolution. On 1 April 2023, the Anchorage Daily News Editorial Board took the extraordinary step of publishing an editorial against HB 105. The voices in favor of HB 105 were by far the minority in all arenas of public discourse. Therefore, you should be aware that if you implement the policies contained in this resolution, you will not be standing with the majority of Alaskans.

You should also be aware that you will directly, negatively, and significantly impact all LGBTQ youth in our state, not just transgendered youth. The larger community will see this, rightfully, as an attack on their very right to exist in public. The Trevor Project has published the following statistics regarding the LGBTQ community, directly related to the kinds of policies proposed in Resolution 02-2023:

- Suicide is the second leading cause of death in LGBTQ people ages 10 to 24.
- LGBTQ youth are four times as likely as their straight counterparts to attempt suicide.
- 1.8 million LGBTQ youth seriously consider suicide every year.
- 45 percent of LGBTQ youth have seriously considered suicide in the past year and this figure is greater than 50 percent for transgender youth.

If you implement the policies contained in this resolution, there will be blood on your hands, and that blood may very well be from someone you know and care about.

Finally, if I cannot interest you in aligning with the interests of the people of Alaska, or appeal to you to show humanity toward our beloved state's LGBTQ community, I will appeal to your own self-interest. After the Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*, white people took to school boards exactly like this one to enact policies maintaining segregation for as long as they could. The school boards cited parental rights and local control as reasons for fighting integration for as long as possible until forced to yield by Federal court orders. Today we look back on those boards, and those individuals, with enmity and scorn. You should know that should you implement the policies contained in this resolution, you will be the heirs to shame of those racists of the past. Your names will be forever linked with this policy after the politics of today have past indelibly into the history books, and history will not be kind. Your families and all future generations will have to live with and explain your actions. A 2022 story in *The Hill* showed that two-thirds of Generation Z is worried about the state of LGBTQ rights in the United States. These are your children and grandchildren and they are the ones who will be directly affected by these policies. Implementing the policies contained in this resolution stands in direct opposition to their own interests and perspectives. I humbly, but forcibly, suggest you listen to the wisdom

of youth on this matter.

In closing, the vision statement the Board purports to hold dear states: "All students can succeed in their education and work; shape worthwhile and satisfying lives for themselves; exemplify the best values of society; and, be effective in improving the character and quality of the world around them." If this is the vision you truly hold for students, you yourselves should live up to it by refusing to implement the policies contained in this resolution.

The people of Alaska, Alaska's LGBTQ youth, and your own self-interest align in declining to implement the policies contained in this resolution.

Respectfully,

Jason Norris



From: [Joelyn Reilly](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: please let any girl play any sport
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 10:56:43 AM

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Singling out trans kids is harmful. Please just let them play sports on the team they want to play with. This should not be an issue.

Thanks,
Joelyn Reilly, LCSW

[REDACTED]

From: [Joe Hartley](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Girls Sports
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 7:58:36 AM

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Sport's participation is based on sex at birth. To allow males to participate in female events puts females at risk physically and psychologically.

In plain terms it is not fair.

Do not allow males at birth to participate in girls sports events. Do not allow males at birth to be in girls locker rooms.

Joe Hartley

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Joel Curtis](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: "females who were assigned female at birth."
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:32:51 PM

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I am a Liburul, you know, those democratic socialists that all the Right-wingers hate so much.

Yet, here's one thing that I agree with you about athletics: If a person is born a male, and develops any male characteristics, in many sports they have an unfair advantage. I support a simple bill that states: "females who were assigned female at birth." are the ONLY persons allowed to participate in women's only school sports.

I was a competitive swimmer for many years, and know first hand the advantages that the male body has over females in swimming. There is a recent case in the NCAA championships where a once male, now female smoked the field in the 500 yd. freestyle. The person should have not been allowed to compete due to the upper body advantages.

Thanks for listening to me.

Joel Curtis
[REDACTED]

From: [John Thies](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Fairness In Womens Sports
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:04:43 PM

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I am in favor of a new regulation that would prohibit transgender girls from participating on girls sports teams.

A proposal should limit participation on girls high school sports teams to “females who were assigned female at birth.”

John Thies

[REDACTED]

From: [John Timmers](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Females at birth
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:55:46 PM

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In no way shape or form should males be able to play in competitive elementary/junior high/high school/college sports that are female sports.

Males are dominant in sports over females.

It is a sad state of affairs in our state that the few individuals whom would take advantage of the lesser sex with the preposterous idea that they are women, they are FAKE women.

John Timmers
[REDACTED]

From: [Jonnie Dolan](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Proposal to ban trans athletes
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 10:51:41 PM

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Please do not give in to the bigots who would have our little girls' genitals inspected before they let them hit a ball with a bat. This is absolutely ridiculous and will punish not only trans girls, but any girl who was assigned female at birth and does not confirm to rigid gender stereotypes. I went through all of K-12 in the anchorage school district, and our girls are to my through quite enough during this time, they don't also need gender policing their ability to compete in sports.

Is the administration who proposed this ban familiar with the history of women's sports? I highly recommend looking into the history of women's baseball/softball, at the very least, but any gendered division of sports will tell you the same story. Women don't compete separately for women's sake, it's for the sake of men's egos that would be crushed by being beat by a girl. Trans women have no demonstrable advantage over non-trans girls, and banning them from girls' sports is nothing more than a scare tactic.

From: [Judy Crondahl](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Limiting Transgender Girls
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 9:57:09 AM

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To the Commissioner:

I am writing in opposition to the proposal to limit participation of transgender girls in high school sports. Alaska has a diminishing population, an insignificant number of transgender girls, and there is no good reason for adopting this rule unless and until it can be shown that the absence of this rule has caused harm. On the other hand, adoption of this rule is guaranteed to cause harm in the form of overt discrimination.

Instead of rushing to judgement or jumping on the “issue de jour,” wait to see if there is a problem. Does this issue apply only to transgender girls? Are they supposed to compete in boys’ sports or are they prohibited from all sports? What about transgender boys? Are they supposed to compete on girls’ teams, boys’ teams, or not at all? Once you take on this issue you are opening yourselves to a myriad of problems. Please wait to see if this really is a problem before distracting yourselves from dealing with real problems.

Judy Crondahl
[REDACTED]

From: [karen jensen](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: comments about the attack on transgender athletes
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 8:00:23 PM

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I am opposed to creating rules against a single group of targeted individuals. That is called discrimination.

The real question is why this idea was introduced in Alaska in the first place, and who did it? And [why are you doing this man's bidding?](#) Why do Alaskans need to follow the hate playbook from Outsiders who only want to cause political chaos? What do you think is this man's ultimate goal for our country - and our state? It isn't good.

There's nothing defensible whatsoever in the action you have proposed. Nothing. It's merely a wedge issue, one designed to heighten the power of those who would be autocrats. The issue has no merit, or it would have been brought up long before it was assigned to you to accomplish on behalf of a political party. The only reason you even heard about it was because it is a national campaign to create a scapegoat, to gain political power and collect money from the ignorant and fearful.

If you decide to continue down this path of prejudice, I hope you all get individually sued for discrimination because that is 100% what this is. For shame.

Sincerely,

Karen Jensen
[REDACTED]

From: [Kathrin McCarthy](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: girls and sports
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 6:51:40 PM

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Dear Commissioner and other members of AK State School Board.

I am a long time resident of Alaska. I moved to Alaska In 1965. I have two daughters and grand daughter and a great- granddaughter. My concerns about recent legislation from our Governor, which has brought lower-48 culture war issues to our state is part of my reason for responding.

I am not in favor of creating and imposing rules, prohibitions, and restrictions on girl's participation in their school's sports. My view is that girls who were born girls and do not experience gender dysphoria and or persons who believe that they are girls should be allowed to participate in their schools sports activities.

I believe that it is up to the schools and parents of the girls to decide on how this issue should be handled. I am completely opposed to the Alaska State School Board being the entity who is deciding on this issue.

This is purely a political issue that the board is deciding to get involved in, and I do not think it is appropriate for the state board to be involved in this.

There is a lot of opinion and research on this highly complex issue and I do not think the Ak School board is qualified to be making such a decision.

Thank you for considering my point of view.

Sincerely yours,

Kathrin W.. McCarthy Phd
[REDACTED]

From: [Kelly Rose McLaughlin](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: support for biological girls
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 9:06:25 AM

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I support the proposal to limit girls' sports to biological girls. Thank you for protecting our young women. Co-ed sports can be increased if there is a need to accommodate youth struggling with gender identity.

Thank you.

--

Kelly McLaughlin

[REDACTED]

From: [Ken Winterberger](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Regarding the amendment of 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5)
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:02:04 PM

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Greetings.

The proposal to amend 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5) so that "if a separate high school athletics team is established for female students, participation shall be limited to females who were assigned female at birth," is curious, at best. I have consulted with a number of medical doctors who specialize in this area; I taught comprehensive sexuality for 20+ years and wanted to "get it right." It is sometimes *very* difficult to make this assignment and the assignment can be wrong. The "assignment" only deals with visual sex characteristics (plumbing) and not gender.


I am not sure how many trans-sex youth compete in Alaska HS athletics; I can't believe it is a lot. I personally only know one individual and he competed in female cross-country skiing, even though he identified as a male.

The International Olympic Committee has struggled with this issue for years. For a long time, they based their "competition sex assessment" on the level of testosterone in the competitor's blood. This was difficult, and fraught with error, because a number of elite female athletes had "normal" testosterone levels (for them) that were much higher than the "normal" range for the population at large.

I don't think we know enough about human physiology to have politicians making this sort of choice by fiat.

Thank you.

Ken W.

Ken Winterberger


I am the Lorax. I speak for the trees, for the trees have no tongues.

-Dr. Suess

From: [Kenny Dowell](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:23:47 PM

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Science proves there is a difference between a male and female. Genetics Don't change because a individual chosed. Don't allow a male to compete in a girls/female event nor should a girl / female compete against boys. Create a new category for these individuals. Don't destroy people's lives.

From: [Gmail](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Transgender girls in sports
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 6:01:30 PM

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Leave them alone. Let them play.
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Lacey Derr](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Limiting Participation in Female Sports - Public Comment
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 7:57:57 AM

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Good Morning,

My name is Lacey Derr and I am from Juneau Alaska. I am a strong proponent of LGBTQ+ rights and they're ability to live equally among our communities. I have several wonderful trans friends with a wide range of talents.

That being said, I do not support trans females participating in biological female sports.

I myself have a personal experience with this and can say, the biological predisposition of a trans female gives them a greater advantage over biological females. I was part of a local softball organization and our ladies league was asked if it was okay to include a trans player on one of the teams. We of course said it was fine because she was a wonderful person, very friendly, and loves to play softball. During the season however, it was very obvious how physically outmatched the biological females of our league were.

Very rarely was any of the biological females able to hit a home-run over the fence. There were possibly 2 a season. When the trans female joined our league, she hit a home-run every at bat. EVERY at bat. It was also very scary as her power made fielding safety an issue. May of the ladies who played in our league did not want to play against males for their impressive power to hit the ball.

Watching trans female in professional sports who have never won in a males category absolutely DOMINATE female sports with broken records, it is unfair and it shows how unequal the biological predisposition of born males are to born females. It does cause me sadness to say biologically born males should not participate in biological female sports. It is a safety and equity issue.

I do however support "Open/Co-Ed" categories for sports if possible.

I sincerely appreciate your time in reading my comments. I also hope others are able to express their views amicably and professionally. I will apologize now on behalf of any individual who's comments are unacceptable, hateful, or hurtful.

Respectfully,
Lacey Derr
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Interscholastic Activities
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 7:32:02 AM

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Hello,
For public record.

My name is Leo Fowler. I live in Port Alsworth and am father of 11 who have or are attending school in the Lake & Peninsula School District and am a member Local School Advisory Committee. I am in favor of this change with the exception of using "sex as determined at birth".

Thank you.

(D) ensures fairness, safety, and equal opportunity for female students in high school athletics by providing, in consideration of responses to a school survey under 4 AAC 06.520, that if a separate high school athletics team is established for female students, participation shall be limited to females who were assigned female at birth; in this subparagraph, "athletics" means competitive or contact sports, as determined by the association

Sent from my Galaxy

From: [Leslie Hannam](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Participation of transgender girls in high school sports
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 9:42:01 PM

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RE: Participation of transgender girls in high school sports

I am submitting a comment in opposition to the proposed statewide regulation to limit the participation of transgender girls in high school sports.

Education regulations are best developed and adopted at the local level. Each community in Alaska has its own unique values.

The local school boards are best equipped to develop regulations regarding participation of girls in high school sports that meet the values of the community they serve.

Leslie Hannam

[REDACTED]

From: [Lynda Giguere](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Cc: [Lynda Giguere](#)
Subject: Oppose Attack on Transgender Athletes
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 8:22:21 AM

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I am troubled by the motivation behind recent attacks on our LGBTQ community and now this sudden push to prevent transgender athletes from participating in sports as the gender in which they identify.

Rather than solving real and existing problems, Alaska powers that be are jumping on the cynical bandwagon being driven by politicians who don't care about anyone but firing up the base. They do so by instilling fear and hate.

Let's be honest. What's driving this is a hateful political movement that's taken root in the Lower 48. I find this particularly offensive.

In fact, the most damage being done to our students right now is the Governor's recent incomprehensible veto of school funding. That's the real problem confronting our kids and sadly it's being inflicted by our own purportedly pro-family Governor.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Martha Smith](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Boys pretending to be Girls
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:57:07 PM

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Having BOYS in GIRLS sports? Are you kidding me!!! If they have a penis and testosterone in their system, they ARE MALE! Vagina vs Penis. Real simple. If BOYS who pretend to be Female want to play in women sports, have a transgender team!! Signed , disgusted in you!!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Michael Cobaugh](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Re: Make wise decisions and choose wise friends don't let bad friends influence your life
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 3:59:20 PM

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It

On Thu, Jun 22, 2023 at 1:03 PM Michael Cobaugh <michaelcobaugh1@gmail.com> wrote:
In high school sports

On Thu, Jun 22, 2023 at 1:02 PM Michael Cobaugh <michaelcobaugh1@gmail.com> wrote:

Don't allow the trans allow in girls sports it's not worth think of like a chain a good chain strong keep boys in boys sports and girls in sports if you guys put one bad chain it break the chain my point is don't allow transgender to participate in girls sports there is one lesson that I learned is you can choose your choices but you can't choose your consequences don't let the transgender influence your decision let wise people influence your decision I'm so sick and tired of transgender bossing everybody else to influence to make bad choices that's why I chose wise friends they kept me out of trouble choose wise friends if you choose bad friends you will never recover my point is don't let your friends influence your decision I'm not tell you what to do I'm just giving my input what should you do

From: [Morgan Kertmann](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Comment on Proposal
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 9:49:01 AM

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I strongly oppose the proposal that would limit participation on girls high school sports teams to “females who were assigned female at birth”. It is unconstitutional and violates AK constitution privacy clause. All kids should be allowed to join and enjoy school sports no matter their sex. High school is hard enough after all. Let’s all just be kind.

Morgan Kertmann
[REDACTED]

From: [Patrick M](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Proposed Regulation - AAC 06.115(b)(5)
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 6:44:13 PM

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Hello,

I just wanted to voice my comment regarding the proposed amendment to AAC 06.115(b)(5).

I fully support this amendment. Trans girls should NOT be competing against girls in all-female sports.

Thank you,
Patrick McLaughlin
[REDACTED]

From: [Rik Pruett](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Transgender Sports
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 7:55:46 AM

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I am 110% in support of ensuring that girls are treated fairly by not allowing biological males to compete among them in contests that are meant to be for females only. This one is a no-brainer as the differences between the two genders are unquestionably apparent to anyone whose eyes are open to reality and not focused on catering to a minuscule and highly vocal fringe group at the expense of actual girls accomplishments. And yes, there are only TWO genders, Male and Female. The majority of the human population is extremely tired of having this twisted and fact denying ideology shoved down their throats by failed male athletes who can only win against girls.

Rik Pruett

From: [Bob](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Public comment, proposed 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5) amendment
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 7:46:25 AM

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This comment is re: proposed regulatory amendments to [4 AAC 06.115\(b\)\(5\)](#).

The proposed changes contained in this regulation should be rejected. The proposal singles out one particular, very small, group of students and discriminates against them in violation of the State constitution. If passed, it will surely be challenged in an expensive court challenge and the rights of all Alaskans will be upheld. Please do not waste diminishing state resources on such frivolous, politically motivated policy.

Sincerely,
Robert Thompson

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: State opens public comment period on rule limiting transgender girls in high school sports
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 7:46:05 AM

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I am sorry but I do not think it is a good idea for boys to be playing on girls teams. I Have a daughter and I don't want her to get hurt and I don't think it is right to have boys changing in the say locker room. That is wrong and it could get to a point that some boy could rape a girl. That has already happen and the dad spoke out about it and was taken away by the board and his daughter still has not seen that boy charged with rape and gone to jail. It is wrong.

From: [Sandra Holsten](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Transgender rules
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 10:08:09 AM

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1. This will result in more hate. Already whacko parents are demanding proof of sex when their little darling gets beat by another kid. How would your kid feel when there's a parent demanding proof of birth sex at them?
2. Leave this too local schools to work out
3. Is this really an issue???? No, it's a political opportunity for Republicans to capitalize on issue that is going to create hate and more division at the expense of our kids.
4. Is this the best use of civic energy.....maybe focus instead on improving education, supporting teachers, building mental health care etc etc....

From: [Sandra K Patrick](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Women's sports
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 12:23:39 PM

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The subject is women's sports. Transgender women are not women. It is fair for them to compete in the men's categories. It would be unfair to allow them to participate in the women's categories.

Sandra Patrick

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sarah Wilcox](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Girls sports in Anchorage
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 8:19:38 PM

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I want to express my support of the ability of all girls to participate in girls sports in Anchorage, whether trans or cis gender. There are many reasons, including biological and genetic reasons why a girl would be transgender. I think the fact that their gender took a different path to discover isn't a good reason to exclude them from sports. I'm sure you've heard lots of arguments on both sides. I am persuaded by the side to allow them to play. Please note my support in your considerations.

Respectfully,

Sarah Wilcox LCSW

From: [Scott Merriner](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: I support restricting participants in female sports to "females who were designated female at birth."
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 3:14:52 PM

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I support restricting participants in female sports to "females who were designated female at birth."

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Shaina Seidner](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: women's sports
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 11:02:54 PM

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I wanted to throw my voice in AGAINST limiting teams to the gender assigned at birth. There are many reasons I feel this way, but most importantly- we have more important things to think about right now, like the fact that the gov has vetoed half the education funding and can't seem to find his way to a podium to explain his decisions. Worrying about who is on what sports team is a ridiculous distraction from the actual problems, and will only encourage and emphasize the discrimination and loneliness trans teens already feel. And who is going to make sure this 'rule' is followed if it goes through!? Stop making up problems and start focusing on what issues already exist. BSA, teachers not feeling supported, lack of retirement, etc.



From: [Shannon Nye](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Females assigned female at birth
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 11:57:08 AM

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"Females" not assigned this gender at birth have an advantage over those assigned a female at birth as they are by nature's design a stronger and more physical being. Having the two compete against each other in a fair competition is not possible. It is a slanted competition. Do not allow these two categories of "females" to compete against each other.

From: [Shelley Johnston](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Ban on biological males in female sports
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 5:51:59 PM

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I am writing to you today about the proposed ban on biological males who are saying that they are girls playing sports. As a woman and the mother of a female former Alaska High School Volleyball player who is now a college athlete in the same sport I am I favor of this ban.

I am in favor of this ban for several reasons:

In most sports, biological males have a significant size and strength advantage which robs girls and women of opportunities to compete fairly and win, which can affect their receipt of scholarships and other advantages. Riley Gains and Chelsea Mitchell are examples of this.

In contact sports there is a real danger of serious and permanent physical injury to girls and women- for example Payton McNabb and Tamikka Brents were both injured when competing with an individual who was male but identified as female.

At 16, boys are typically 4" taller than most girls, they have stronger upper bodies and legs and longer arms than girls.

The risk of serious injury or concussion to a female athlete who is forced to compete with a biological male is greater in contact sports such as hockey, boxing, wrestling, and football.

In volleyball the net is set lower for games played by females alone and when playing coed matches the net is set at the mens height which protects women from the harder spikes of men.

Title IX was enacted to give women and girls the opportunity to participate in and benefit from playing sports, to allow men or boys who say they are girls to participate in these sports and enter our spaces is erasing our opportunities and what makes us unique. Women and girls deserve to have their sports and designated spaces protected. Please keep our daughters, nieces, sisters and cousins safe and from being erased by passing this ban.

Respectfully,

Shelley Johnston

From: [Stephanie Powell](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Proposal on transgender girls in Sport
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 6:09:57 PM

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I think this is an entirely unnecessary rule to disallow transgender youth in sport. Allow students to play sports with the gender they identify as does not hurt women playing these sports but it hurts the transgender student who is already facing increased hostility just for who they are. Don't hurt already marginalized students.

From: [Stephanie Rice](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Please Do Not Adopt Changes to 4 AAC 06
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 5:24:21 PM

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To Alaska Board of Education,

I am strongly opposed to the changes proposed to 4 AAC 06, related to interscholastic activities and urge the Board not to adopt this change. According to the public notice, the Board of Education is proposing the following change to the AAC: 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5) is proposed to be changed as follows: to require nonprofit associations that administer and promote interscholastic activities in Alaska to ensure fairness, safety, and equal opportunity for female students in high school athletics by limiting participation in separate high school athletics teams for female students in competitive or contact sports to females who were assigned female at birth.

I am a lifelong female athlete, and I cannot emphasize enough how important sports were to my development as a young woman in high school. Playing soccer, running track, and competitive swimming helped me develop the resiliency, discipline and teamwork to succeed in my post-education professional life, and providing these opportunities to ALL students is essential for their lifelong mental and physical health. It is abhorrent that the Board of Education would seek to deny these opportunities to trans girls. There is no evidence that trans girls' participation in sports detracts in any way from the opportunities available for cis-gendered girls, and this change to the AAC is a solution in search of a problem. It is barely disguised bigotry masquerading as concern for female athletes, and it is incredibly harmful to trans girls who already face appalling levels of harassment, assaults and suicidal ideation. Sports are a refuge for many students, and one of the primary benefits of participation in sports is the opportunity to meet and play with people who are different from you. Denying trans girls the right to participate in organized athletics isolates them, promotes hatred and distrust of trans people generally, and does absolutely nothing to benefit female athletes. Please do not adopt this incredibly harmful change to the AAC.

Stephanie Rice
Alaska Resident

From: [Susan Ritter](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: proposed changes to education and its impact on transgender youth
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 6:42:38 AM

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Dear DEED Commissioner,

I do not support the attack on children by the current Republican Governor, Mr. Dunleavy.

Once again, girls and women are being singled out and bullied by adults.

The transgender rule change targets children and their families. How awful.

There is no evidence that transgender girls are going to take over the female sports world. This is a hateful and bullying attempt by frightened men who have a limited understanding of the complexities of transgender youth.

If you support the governor's views then you are supporting bullying, hate, and ignorance.

Sincerely yours,

Susan Ritter
[REDACTED]

Special Education Teacher

From: [Rich and Susan Ross](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Trans Girls
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 5:54:57 PM

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Hi!

I was a female athlete all through High School and College. I would like to see girls sports protected from transgender athletes. Having a “girls” and “open” category allow everyone who wants to participate an opportunity without any unfair advantages.

I have also been teaching Physical Education for 18 years and coached for decades. Their is reason why we always separate the girls and boys. We all know males and females perform at different levels based on hormones, strength, and many other variables. It simply is not fair for female athletes to have to compete against anyone who is not of female gender.

Please protect female sports!

Fight for the girls!!

Thank you!

Susan Ross

From: [Aubrey Ruschmann](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Keep Female Spaces Female
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 8:38:09 AM

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I support the proposal to NOT let biological boys play on female teams or in all female spaces. We need protect our young women. The generations before us fought so hard to provide safe female only spaces and opportunities for us to thrive and now they are being erased for a small group of men and activists. We need to protect and uplift our young women even if that means upsetting a small minority of people-biology matters.

Thank you,
Aubrey Ruschmann
[REDACTED]

From: [JON OLSEN](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Female sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 4:35:14 PM

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The bottom line after all the argument and posturing is this. We MUST restrict female sports to to only females who are females-from-birth. Males-from-birth who identify as females and then participate in female sports still have male DNA in every cell in their bodies, and thus will ALWAYS be bigger and stronger than the females-from-birth they compete against. The males-from-birth will ALWAYS win every contest where strength and size are integral to success in the sport. Thus, females-from-birth will be forever locked out of winning those sports, those college scholarships, and everything else connected. The real women and girls will never win.

There are many times more females-from-birth than males who identify as females. It isn't fair to the females-from-birth. The males-from-birth need to organize their own sports teams exclusive to them.

Barbara Landi

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Bethany Janidlo](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: I am writing to you today regarding a very important issue
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 6:17:30 PM

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Dear Commissioner Heidi Teshner,

I oppose the proposed regulation changes to 4 AAC 06 dealing with school sports. Trans girls belong. They deserve to feel safe and exercise their bodies and celebrate the joy of team sports. Thank you for protecting the fundamental rights of our community.

Sincerely,
Miss Bethany Janidlo

[REDACTED]

From: [Brian Gundlach](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Alaska state regulation protecting girls from transgenders in sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 3:07:24 PM

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It doesn't take much thought for a rational person to agree that of course girls' sports should be for girls. It is ridiculous that we even have to have the discussion.

--

Brian Gundlach



From: [Cerys Hudson](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment On limiting transgender girls in high school sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 7:08:16 PM

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It is wrong to limit transgender women to compete in high school sports. Once transitioned, a person does not have advantages in sports due to the estrogen. This is discriminatory and unfair to women who want to stay fit and be in a team sport which is great for teenagers. Please rethink this decision because it is unfair and not right to teenagers in Alaska.

From: [Chris](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: do not enforce transgender limits in sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 4:33:04 AM

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1. I do not want government in the pants of kids, and I don't think you do either.
2. I do not want parents policing other kids, looking for kids that don't "look how a girl should look," and in any other context, this would be called "bullying."
3. If fairness is the issue, two things:
 - a. high school sports are NOT mostly about getting a college scholarship- they are about kids finding community and drive and incentive and belief in themselves
 - b. sports aren't fair- some kids are bigger than others, some parents can afford travel teams
4. Trans kids in high school sports are not a problem. There are so few trans kids who are brave enough, supported enough, and strong enough to be out in high school. This proposed rule is bullying a tiny group of people who already have a 40% suicide attempt rate. This is cruel and petty, and the people in charge should be ashamed.

Sincerely,
Chris Garber-Slaght

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Proposed regulation change
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 11:27:32 AM

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Good morning,

I am not in support of the proposed regulation change to 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5). I know that regulation changes often move forward regardless of community support but I felt compelled to express my opinion anyway. Focusing on someone's gender to discriminate should not happen anywhere, especially not in Alaska.

Thank you,
Christina Davis
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Chuck Duncan](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Trans athletics
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 8:17:48 AM

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Under no circumstances should bio boys compete in bio girls sports. The only question is should a trans program be set up for trans only competition. That should be on a tax ballot unless the trans community plans to pay for it

Chuck Duncan
[REDACTED]


Sent from my iPhone

From: [Connie Anderson Ozer](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Girls in sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 7:43:07 PM

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You have a wonderful opportunity to do the right thing when you choose to let transgender girls play high school sports. There is certainly enough cruelty to go around in today's world, but you can avoid those who are prejudiced, misinformed, and fearful and demonstrate that the Alaska School Activities Commission is fair and just and your purpose is to ensure that any girl who wants to play high school sports can do so. These are children we are talking about; please set the example for ALL children/students that high school sports are inclusive and should be fun and a chance to learn acceptance and tolerance and the joy that comes from competing with the mix of people that is our world today. What better place to learn than in school. Who better to teach this than adults who advocate for every child.

Thank you.

Connie Ozer


From: [Craig Loken](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Transgender sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 11:10:29 AM

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If these are truly public comments the public should be able to see them.

Thank you
Craig Loken

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Dawn Maness](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: NO TO MEN IN WOMENS SPORTS
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 3:05:03 PM

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Please!!!

You MUST Absolutely BAN any born Male chromosome HUMAN from Competing in WOMENS SPORTS.

Women have only had the benefits of Title Nine for 50 years. LEADERSHIP, COMPETITION and TEAMWORK. Now a bunch of MENTALITY ILL MEN are trying to take away ALL of Women's Wins. They can make Co-Ed leagues or compete with Men.

If you were Born with a PENIS you should not be allowed to compete with REAL WOMEN.

I played Volleyball and Softball in High school and Intramural Co-Ed Flag Football. Both have their place, BUT WOMEN ARE THE ONLY ONES THAT GET TO DECIDE if THEY want to play with Men!!

Women are at least 50% of the population. Trans mental health patients are less than 1%. Their rights do not trump WOMENS RIGHTS.

DO THE RIGHT THING OR FACE REMOVAL. Americans are getting fed up with this trans rights CRAP. STOP THE BS RIGHT NOW.

DAWN MANESS

[REDACTED]
30 year RN

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Maria Capezio Crookes](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy! Let ALL kids play
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 7:46:55 PM

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Dear Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Commissioner,

Please do not adopt changes to Alaska Administrative Code (4 AAC 06.115) that would violate all students' privacy and separate trans girls from their peers.

The Alaska State Board of Education's mission is "An Excellent Education for Every Student Every Day." Adopting these regulation changes would be a blatant violation of this mission by denying transgender girls (and only girls) the ability to participate fully in sports and school communities. These proposed changes will profoundly violate all students' privacy by forcing educators and coaches to identify and separate transgender youth from their peers.

Making changes to Alaska Administrative Code does not solve any real issue (like funding) and instead actively stigmatizes, isolates, and denies basic participation in school activities to trans girls. To protect students' privacy and push back against discrimination, I urge the Alaska State Board of Education and Department of Education and Early Development to oppose these changes: let trans students be part of the team.

Sincerely,
Deaconess Maria Capezio Crookes

[REDACTED]

From: [Deana Kubosh](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 10:28:21 AM

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Good Morning,

I am writing in support of keeping sports assigned to the biological sex of the participant. As a parent of two children 5, and 3, I fear that my 5yo daughter will be at greater risk of injury with male competitors- both physically and morally. I also want my child to compete fairly.

We must ask ourselves why sports were separated by sex in the first place? Where do we draw the line?

I also recommend having a third division for non-binary or transgender individuals.

Let's keep empowering females and honor the success we have made over the years- keep it objective with biology not psychology.

Very respectfully,

Deana

From: [Diana Redwood](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Objection to proposed rule
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 4:39:53 PM

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Hello,

I am submitting my strong objection for the proposal that would limit participation on girls high school sports teams to “females assigned female at birth”. I think this an unnecessary and punitive measure which does not fit our Alaskan values.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Diana Redwood

[REDACTED]

From: [Ellen Varosi](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: safeguarding girls' athletic teams in K-12 schools across the state
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 6:30:49 PM

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I approve and support the proposed regulation, put forth by the State Board of Education and Early Development, which prevents boys from competing in any exclusively girls' divisions, ensuring fairness, safety, and equal opportunities for female students in middle and high school athletics. Where sex is determined by sex at birth.

I support the the proposed alterations, 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5), which requires all nonprofit associations responsible for administering and promoting interscholastic activities in Alaska to restrict participation in separate high school athletics teams for competitive or contact sports to females who were female at birth, rather than males who have taken hormones and had surgeries to present themselves as females.

Kind Regards,

Ellen Rose Varosi

“The truth doesn't mind being questioned. A lie does not like being challenged”
Friedrich Nietzsche

From: [Emily Foster](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Proposal on sports and transgender participation
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 7:20:03 AM

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am highly in favor of the proposed legislation to limit transgender women from girls' sports. Biological men have an enormous advantage over women in athletic and physical prowess. My heart goes out to those struggling with gender dysphoria, and we cannot exclude one gender in favor of another. I would be very in favor of a third sports category specifically for transgender women.

Thank you,
Emily Foster

--

Emily Foster
Alaska Wellness Woman

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Eric Schneider](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: I am writing to you today regarding a very important issue
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 5:40:38 PM

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Dear Commissioner Heidi Teshner,

I oppose the proposed regulation changes to 4 AAC 06 dealing with school sports.

Discrimination has no role in Alaska or the U.S. That includes discrimination against transgender persons.

From the basic science perspective, gender is not a simple binary male/female. There are babies born with ambiguous genitalia, and others with genetic variants that are more complicated than a simple XY/XX chromosome. The WHO (World Health Organization) and others note that gender is primarily a social construct, and thus somewhat arbitrary.

There is no good evidence that transgender children have an unfair advantage in sports.

There is zero evidence that children change their gender identity solely to participate in sports.

There is good evidence that sports and other extracurricular activities are very beneficial for children of all backgrounds, and the benefits of vigorous physical activity cannot be underestimated in our largely sedentary society.

There is good evidence that affirming our children and their thoughts and feelings creates a virtuous cycle--improved self esteem, improved performance in school and sports.

There is also good evidence that children who do not feel affirmed do not do as well--up to an including self harm and suicide among those who feel rejected or unsupported.

This discriminative policy has no role in this Great State. Alaskans overwhelmingly respect personal choice and a general right to privacy (it is even in our Constitution). This policy should be voted down, or better yet pulled from discussion at all. In fact, the Alaska Board of Education should make it clear that discrimination against transgender people is not allowed, and overturn policies in districts where such discrimination is current school policy (i.e., MatSu School District).

Let our children play! Allow our children to blossom and grow as they are meant to be.

Sincerely,
Dr. Eric Schneider

[REDACTED]

From: [Erin Leaders](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: safeguarding girls' athletic teams in K-12 schools across the state
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 8:09:47 PM

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I approve and support the proposed regulation, put forth by the State Board of Education and Early Development, which prevents boys from competing in any exclusively girls' divisions, ensuring fairness, safety, and equal opportunities for female students in middle and high school athletics. Where sex is determined by sex at birth.

I support the the proposed alterations, 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5), which requires all nonprofit associations responsible for administering and promoting interscholastic activities in Alaska to restrict participation in separate high school athletics teams for competitive or contact sports to females who were female at birth, rather than males who have taken hormones and had surgeries to present themselves as females.

Erin Leaders

[REDACTED]

Alaskan resident with children in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Heather McFarlin](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 6:01:17 PM

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Dear Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Commissioner,

Please do not adopt changes to Alaska Administrative Code (4 AAC 06.115) that would violate all students' privacy and separate trans girls from their peers.

The Alaska State Board of Education's mission is "An Excellent Education for Every Student Every Day." Adopting these regulation changes would be a blatant violation of this mission by denying transgender girls the ability to participate fully in sports and school communities. These proposed changes will profoundly violate all students' privacy by forcing educators and coaches to identify and separate transgender youth from their peers.

Making changes to Alaska Administrative Code does not solve any real issue and instead actively stigmatizes, isolates, and denies basic participation in school activities to trans girls. To protect students' privacy and push back against discrimination, I urge the Alaska State Board of Education and Department of Education and Early Development to oppose these changes: let trans students be part of the team.

There are bigger, more important problems in this state than a handful of transgender girls playing sports. Many children don't get to eat every day, many families across the state have had to go with little food for months because of the backlog in approving welfare/food stamps. We have communities without fresh water. We can't keep teachers or police. The city of Fairbanks has to have no police on duty for 4 hours a day starting in August. We have problems with infrastructure. We have problems with housing.

Many of these anti-trans bans around the country are being blocked by the judiciary because they are unconstitutional.

It's time to focus on what's important to your constituents! Fix the actual problems in our state! Get hungry people fed! Get teachers for our kids, and fix our police force! Fix our infrastructure and housing problems!

Sincerely,
Dr. Heather McFarlin

[REDACTED]

From: [Jacki Churchill](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Public comment regarding rule limiting transgender girls in high school sports.
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 8:12:33 AM

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Based on an Alaska Public Media article dated June 22, 2023, I understand the state is open to public comments regarding limiting transgender girls in high school sports.

As a female who played field hockey against the 1 male on an opposing team, I can vouch first hand at the disparity that exists between genders. Therefore, my opinion regarding girls high school sports is that only those who are assigned female at birth should play against others who also were assigned female at birth.

Sincerely,

Jacki Churchill

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Jasmine Christiansen](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 4:16:20 PM

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Dear Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Commissioner,

Please do not adopt changes to Alaska Administrative Code (4 AAC 06.115) that would violate all students' privacy and separate trans girls from their peers.

The Alaska State Board of Education's mission is "An Excellent Education for Every Student Every Day." Adopting these regulation changes would be a blatant violation of this mission by denying transgender girls the ability to participate fully in sports and school communities. These proposed changes will profoundly violate all students' privacy by forcing educators and coaches to identify and separate transgender youth from their peers.

Making changes to Alaska Administrative Code does not solve any real issue and instead actively stigmatizes, isolates, and denies basic participation in school activities to trans girls. To protect students' privacy and push back against discrimination, I urge the Alaska State Board of Education and Department of Education and Early Development to oppose these changes: let trans students be part of the team.

Sincerely,
Ms. Jasmine Christiansen

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [jess zonato](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 3:55:04 PM

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Dear Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Commissioner,

Please do not adopt changes to Alaska Administrative Code (4 AAC 06.115) that would violate all students' privacy and separate trans girls from their peers.

The Alaska State Board of Education's mission is "An Excellent Education for Every Student Every Day." Adopting these regulation changes would be a blatant violation of this mission by denying transgender girls the ability to participate fully in sports and school communities. These proposed changes will profoundly violate all students' privacy by forcing educators and coaches to identify and separate transgender youth from their peers.

Making changes to Alaska Administrative Code does not solve any real issue and instead actively stigmatizes, isolates, and denies basic participation in school activities to trans girls. To protect students' privacy and push back against discrimination, I urge the Alaska State Board of Education and Department of Education and Early Development to oppose these changes: let trans students be part of the team.

Sincerely,
ms. jess zonato

[REDACTED]

From: [Kat Arnold](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Comment on Proposed Resolution to Ban Trans Girls from Participating in Girls Sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 12:32:24 PM

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Good afternoon,

My name is Kat Arnold. I am a transgender Alaskan and a parent to a gender-expensive kid who attends public school in Alaska.

I find proposed regulations like the changes being made to the interscholastic activities policies to be a dangerous precedent to set for our state and the people who live here. This is a solution that lacks a problem.

The language used in this proposed change to the interscholastic activities regulation is particularly reprehensible. By setting transgender girls to the side and saying they cannot participate alongside other girls, it sends a very clear message to that girl and the rest of the community - "This child is not like the others, this child must be treated differently, this child does not belong."

This proposed regulatory change speaks clearly to our community. It tells us that our kids will not be safeguarded by the adults charged with helping them reach their futures. For a board committed to the education of our most precious resource, I find the blind and willfully ignorant belief in anti-trans propaganda that this board has espoused to be antithetical to the function of this body.

Our children do deserve fairness, safety, and equal opportunities. All of them. Regulations such as the one proposed do not advocate for the safety of our children. In passing these policies, the state defines which of our children are deserving of safety, which of them are deserving of dignity, which of our children are deserving of a childhood free from the fear of being othered by their community.

If your interest is in the protection of children, do not ratify this change.

Every child belongs. Every single one.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kat Arnold
[REDACTED]

From: [Kathi Gallagher](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Girls Sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 3:38:12 PM

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Commissioner:

I am writing regarding the proposed changes to girls athletics within the state of Alaska. I am adamantly opposed to biological males participating and competing in girls athletics programs.

I am a 38 year veteran of the Anchorage School District and a mother of several athletes. I know the importance of school and athletics.

First, the male and female bodies are built for different purposes. Males bodies tend to be stronger and larger. This would be unsafe and the girls may sustain injuries.

If you allow people with male bodies into women's sports, you may have students who are not comfortable participating. Sports are sometimes the only thing keeping kids in school. If they don't participate in sports, they may not participate in school.

Additionally, colleges give scholarships based on sports. If the girls are trying to compete with the boys, they may miss out on scholarships. This could inhibit their ability to attend college.

There are viable reasons male and female sports are separate and they need to stay that way. These changes are unfair to the girls.

Respectfully,
Kathi Gallagher

From: [Ken Cameron](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Keep biological males out of female sports.
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 7:19:25 AM

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Biological males must not compete in female sports.

Kenneth Cameron
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

From: [kevin dougherty](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Support of Proposal; Only Females at birth in Girl's Sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 12:09:18 PM

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Dear Honorable Commissioner;

Please accept my Public Comment in support of the current proposal to assure that only females at birth be in Girls' Sports.

Girls sports should be protected from competition from males at birth, consistent with women's rights to their sporting activities.

Thank you;
Kevin Dougherty

From: [Kimberly Slone](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Include Transgender Girls
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 1:28:43 AM

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Dear Commissioner,

I live in Wasilla, Alaska and I disagree with the proposal to prohibit transgender girls from playing on girls high school sports teams. If fairness is a concern, handicap girls assigned male at birth. You know, something similar to what they do in Golf so that players with varying skill levels can play together.

I ran cross country and I was on the swim team in high school. Playing sports had a positive impact on my health and well-being. I think transgender girls should be allowed to play.

Sincerely,
Kimberly Slone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Kira Brewer](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 6:10:42 PM

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Dear Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Commissioner,

Please do not adopt changes to Alaska Administrative Code (4 AAC 06.115) that would violate all students' privacy and separate trans girls from their peers.

The Alaska State Board of Education's mission is "An Excellent Education for Every Student Every Day." Adopting these regulation changes would be a blatant violation of this mission by denying transgender girls the ability to participate fully in sports and school communities. These proposed changes will profoundly violate all students' privacy by forcing educators and coaches to identify and separate transgender youth from their peers.

Making changes to Alaska Administrative Code does not solve any real issue and instead actively stigmatizes, isolates, and denies basic participation in school activities to trans girls. To protect students' privacy and push back against discrimination, I urge the Alaska State Board of Education and Department of Education and Early Development to oppose these changes: let trans students be part of the team.

Sincerely,
Mrs Kira Brewer

[REDACTED]

From: [Kristin Pace](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5)
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 8:34:28 AM

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To Whom It May Concern,

I oppose the proposed amendment to 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5). Trans girls are girls. Ensure fairness, safety, and equal opportunity for ALL girls in high school athletics by rescinding this discriminatory and dangerous proposal.

Sincerely,

Kristin Knight Pace, mother of 2
[REDACTED]

From: [Larry Maile](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5)
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 10:07:10 AM

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To whom it may concern;

I the President of USA Powerlifting. We are an Alaska-based non-profit that administers drug-tested powerlifting in the U.S and internationally. I am a lifelong resident of Alaska.

USA Powerlifting is currently engaged in 4 year litigation, and is barred from operations in Minnesota because of our policy of transgender inclusion. In short, we do not allow transgender women to participate in the women's division. We have studied 17,000 powerlifters worldwide to determine real differences in performance, studied out youth data were performance differences emerge, and looked for ways, such as handicapping male-born competitors to assure fairness for women. There is between a 40-65% difference in performance in our sport, a pure strength sport between men and women. To allow those born male to compete against those born and maturing as female is inherently discriminatory. Men are bigger, faster, stronger, have greater endurance, recovery capacity, and different physiology. Sacrificing women's fairness for social reasons and bowing to political pressure sacrifices women.

Please pass this resolution.

--

Lawrence J. Maile, Ph.D.
President



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From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Lillian Partee](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 5:21:06 PM

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Dear Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Commissioner,

Please do not adopt changes to Alaska Administrative Code (4 AAC 06.115) that would violate all students' privacy and separate trans girls from their peers.

The Alaska State Board of Education's mission is "An Excellent Education for Every Student Every Day." Adopting these regulation changes would be a blatant violation of this mission by denying transgender girls the ability to participate fully in sports and school communities. These proposed changes will profoundly violate all students' privacy by forcing educators and coaches to identify and separate transgender youth from their peers.

Making changes to Alaska Administrative Code does not solve any real issue and instead actively stigmatizes, isolates, and denies basic participation in school activities to trans girls. To protect students' privacy and push back against discrimination, I urge the Alaska State Board of Education and Department of Education and Early Development to oppose these changes: let trans students be part of the team.

Sincerely,
Mx. Lillian Partee

[REDACTED]

From: [Lloyd Eggan](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protecting girls athletics
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 10:05:25 AM

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You should absolutely NOT ban transgender girls from playing on teams for girls. My daughter played school sport in Anchorage. There was clearly a wide range in the size, shape, and ability of players. Girls know how, and need to know how, to deal with that. There has never been a problem caused by a trans girl playing on a girls' team, and I don't expect there ever will be, so long as parents and those responsible for school athletics LET GIRLS PLAY!

Lloyd Eggan
[REDACTED]

From: [Margaret O'Neal](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Limiting transgender children's access to competitive sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 3:38:09 PM

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Please do not sideline trans children. The policy is a cruel attack on already vulnerable children. It has the potential to do more long-term harm than the minute risk to cis-gendered girls experiencing unexpected competition in a particular sport or event. In the extremely unlikely event a particular girl loses out to a trans competitor, she'll be fine. Girls come in all shapes and sizes. They're adaptable. They'll persevere.

The answer to women's empowerment is equal justice, not tearing down vulnerable minorities.

Please take some guidance from accredited mental health professionals as opposed to folks pushing a rigid theological ideology. Better yet, let the kids vote on the issue.

Thank you,
Margaret O'Neal

[REDACTED]

--

Best,
Margaret

Margaret O'Neal

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Mary Spatafore](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: I am writing to you today regarding a very important issue
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 4:39:47 PM

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Dear Commissioner Heidi Teshner,

I oppose the proposed regulation changes to 4 AAC 06 dealing with school sports.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Mary Spatafore

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Transgenders in Sport
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 4:51:45 PM

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No way should biological males be aloud to compete with biological female nor should they be in a locker room with young lady showing their penises and peeping on the girls. what is the matter with these crazy people. FOLLOW THE SCIENCE!!!! There are only TWO GENDERS!!!

Mike Tolan

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Natalie Troy](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Public comment on 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5)
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 1:28:02 PM

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CAUTION: This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon Acting Commissioner Teshner,

My name is Natalie Troy and I am a Juneau resident.

I oppose the proposed regulation change to 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5) that would restrict access to female designated sports teams to student athletes designated female at birth.

The proposed regulation change asserts that it "ensures fairness, safety, and equal opportunity for female students in high school athletics." As a woman who played high school sports all four years, I vehemently disagree that taking this action would have this result. I am a cisgender female who was designated female at birth. I played JV & club ultimate frisbee from 7th until 12th grade at public schools in North Carolina. In middle school I played on a coed frisbee team & in high school I played on the girls' team, but we were inclusive of non-male identities and I also practiced and occasionally competed with the boys' team in 9th and 10th grades. Ultimate frisbee is generally considered a low contact sport, but we were sprinting up and down the field at high speeds and injuries did occur across games and tournaments regardless of gender (these were usually because someone had forgotten their cleats and slipped and fell-- something that impacts us all). **I had many experiences playing on a field with people of all gender identities from ages 12 to 17. At no point did the presence of people with other gender identities infringe on my safety, competitive abilities, or fairness as a female athlete.**

This policy change would not improve safety for cisgender young women. This policy change would instead force trans and nonbinary assigned male at birth athletes to play on male teams.

The state has a duty to promote inclusion in education. The state also should not really be using the avenue of the state board of education and early development to pursue policy changes as that is a policy question that legally falls under the purview of the legislature. When it comes to funding schools, you dismiss the need for that as a "policy question." And yet, you consider this question of athletics not to be a policy question. Where is the line? This is an underhanded and sneaky move toward an exclusive end. Don't do it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Natalie Troy

she/hers

Áak'w Kwáan Territory

From: [Ned Lewis](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Transgender Females Competing in Girls Sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 8:24:32 AM

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I strongly oppose transgender females competing in girls sporting events given the unfair physical advantages transgender females (born as males) have over natural born females.

From: [Nicole LaRoche](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Comment for limiting girls high school sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 8:18:54 AM

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Hello,

I am writing to the open comment period for the proposed regulation on high school girls' sports in Alaska. I am an Anchorage resident.

I ask for you to rescind this proposal. Trans girls have every right to participate in girls' sports. This proposal is biased against all women.

Thank you,
Nicole LaRoche
[REDACTED]

From: [Alaska Online Public Notices](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: New Comment on NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES ON INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES IN THE REGULATIONS OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 11:00:38 AM

A new comment has been submitted on the public notice [NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES ON INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES IN THE REGULATIONS OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT](#).

Submitted:

6/23/2023 11:00:35 AM

Tvetene Carlson
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Anonymous User

Comment:

This is an embarrassing waste of state government time and blatant government overreach regulating school sports. This is a matter that should be left to local school boards and interscholastic organizations to handle at the local level on on a sport-by-sport basis. The state government should be focused on addressing far more serious problems such as our fisheries collapse, the further development of renewable energy, and balancing the state budget. In addition, the state is not regulating school sports in regards to weight classes, height, testosterone level, and other physical attributes that are relevant to sporting ability. The fact this government overreach addresses none of these factors for such a minor thing as school sports is simply a blatant act of hatred against transgender women and girls.

You can review all comments on this notice by [clicking here](#).

[Alaska Online Public Notices](#)

From: [Patti Berkhahn](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Transgender bans for girls sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 8:06:32 AM

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No, No, No. Any type of transgender ban or inquiries in girls sports invades the privacy of all girls. No inquiries, no bans.

Patti Berkhahn



Sent from my iPhone

From: [Rich](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Proposed Regulation on participation in girls sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 7:39:59 PM

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This proposal sounds well reasoned and fair to female athletes.
I agree with the proposal.
Thank you

From: [Richard Carlson](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: 4 AAC 06
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 1:16:20 PM

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Dear Commissioner: This is in response to the amendment of 4 ACC 06 regarding females in high school athletics. I completely agree with the amendment that would limit participation in female sports to gender assigned at birth. This is better of fairness and safety and I hope the State Board passes this amendment.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important matter.

Richard Carlson
[REDACTED]

From: [Rob and Rose Welton](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Girls Sports and Trans Athletes: Support the Ban
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 11:55:29 AM

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While I have sympathy for trans persons, some genetic males will have unfair advantages over genetic females, when in athletic competition. So I support the proposed rule, limiting participation on high school girls teams to persons who are female at birth. Thank you. Robert Welton, [REDACTED]

From: [Ruth Fahl](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Limiting transgender girls in high school sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 9:41:47 AM

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Commissioner:

Limiting transgender girls would be one more way to discriminate against those different from "us." If the concern is about injuries, a height and weight minimum and maximum would be much more helpful than preventing a 100#, five foot transgender girl from playing.

This would be a move backwards.

Sincerely,

Ruth Fahl

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sandra Holsten](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Comments on Transgender
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 8:49:27 AM

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1. This will lead to parents demanding that they see proof of birth gender when their kid is beat by another kid....just like it did in Iowa. So every girl who is stuck with a body build that is considered boyish is open to being a victim.
2. There is no proof this is an issue of any consequence in Alaska
3. This is being used to get votes by Republicans. Quit pandering with Constitutional rights.
4. We have far more important issues. Aka the educational system, the mental health issues, childhood health care
5. It will lead to more mental health issues amongst our already stressed teens. Look at our suicide rates. You seriously think this is a priority?
6. This is all about who showers and bathrooms.....no. It's about hate and fear. Any administration that can't figure out better solutions than hate driven laws needs not to be in jobs that operate under the Constitution of the USA.
7. This ignores cultural norms that are accepted and fully functional in some of our minority communities.

From: [Scott Walden](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: I support the proposed change of (1) 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5)
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 2:41:01 AM

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I support the proposed change of (1) 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5)

(1) 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5) is proposed to be changed as follows: to require nonprofit associations that administer and promote interscholastic activities in Alaska to ensure fairness, safety, and equal opportunity for female students in high school athletics by limiting participation in separate high school athletics teams for female students in competitive or contact sports to females who were assigned female at birth.

I saw no mention of existing Co-Ed sports programs where both genders/sexes already can participate.

Protection of males and females using shared locker rooms should be addressed based on at-birth gender/sex for Co-Ed programs too.

Scott Walden
Gloria Walden

[REDACTED]

From: [Sharon Clawson](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Proposal to prohibit trans girls from girls' sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 6:56:42 PM

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Participating in school sports is important, yet not fair. Not all trans girls are alike, just as not all girls are alike. If a 6 ft plus girl is allowed to participate with others less height endowed, it is not fair. If a student whose parents provided private lessons or coaching in the sport, it is not fair. The purpose of school athletics should be to encourage physical skill, sportsmanship, discipline, cooperation and socialization, all of which can improve academic and personal achievement.

Winning or losing seems to be the main issue for this proposal. Unless it is just hatred of transgender kids in general.

As a former teacher, I observed that winning, and/or making money for the programs from ticket sales seemed to be the main purpose of school athletics, in reality. Cynically, transgendered girl athletes would enhance both of these subterranean purposes by increasing audience interest. Sincerely, I protest this proposal because students out of the "norm," face too many obstacles and negative messages to add this rarely occurring issue to our civic regulations.

Sharon Clawson
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

From: [Shoshannah Brasher](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Youth Sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 7:52:12 AM

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Please allow transgender kids to participate in whatever gender sport they choose. Restricting this is a form of bigotry and discrimination.

Sincerely,

Shoshannah Brasher
Parent and Educator

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Shoshanah Stone](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: I am writing to you today regarding a very important issue
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 7:02:58 PM

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Dear Commissioner Heidi Teshner,

I oppose the proposed regulation changes to 4 AAC 06 dealing with school sports.

Sincerely,
Ms Shoshanah Stone

[REDACTED]

From: [Thomas DePeter Jr.](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Transgender
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 9:02:07 AM

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Commissioner

You are either born a female or a male. Anything other is not normal. Our human existence will tell you that.

By allowing "gender choice"our children, who at an early age are searching for their identity in many, many areas in their lives, just makes more confusion, leading to suicide, drug use and mental instability.

Males should compete against males and females should compete against females in these sporting events.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my perspective.

Regards.... Tom DePeter Jr.

TNDjr

From: [warren foster](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: In favor of proposal that prohibits biological men, from women's sports.
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 7:24:59 AM

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I am very strongly in favor of the proposal that would prohibit biological men from participating in women's sports. While I have compassion for those who are afflicted with gender dysphoria, the interests of equity and inclusion, do not require us to go far enough to make an unreasonable accommodation.

It is certainly unreasonable to have biological men participating in women's sports. And it is devastating to the women involved. It destroys decades of progress from title IX which was intended to protect and promote women's opportunities to participate in sports.

Thank you for soliciting commentary. Please protect our daughters and yours from being unfairly discriminated against in women's sports, which discrimination would occur if they were required to compete against biological men.

Sincerely, Warren Foster
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Please protect small girls
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 8:07:06 AM

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To who it may concern;

While I believe inclusivity is important, in this instance I think the best solution would be separate sports leagues for those who have transitioned to a gender not their birth gender.

It is physically unfair to allow male physiques to compete with female.

This is why we already separate males and females, because we recognize the difference in body type.

There is a simple biological advantage to a male body type and physiology regarding sports.

It is unfair to the born females to allow this in competition.

A straightforward solution would be to allow a third category of competitors for those who have or are transitioning

.
Thank you for considering this perspective and my aim is not to hurt or exclude anyone, only to keep sports as fair as possible.

Thank you.

Afraid to sign my name as this is such a charged issue

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Ann Dougherty](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 9:55:53 PM

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CAUTION: This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Commissioner,

Please do not adopt changes to Alaska Administrative Code (4 AAC 06.115) that would violate all students' privacy and separate trans girls from their peers.

The Alaska State Board of Education's mission is "An Excellent Education for Every Student Every Day." Adopting these regulation changes would be a blatant violation of this mission by denying transgender girls the ability to participate fully in sports and school communities. These proposed changes will profoundly violate all students' privacy by forcing educators and coaches to identify and separate transgender youth from their peers.

Making changes to Alaska Administrative Code does not solve any real issue and instead actively stigmatizes, isolates, and denies basic participation in school activities to trans girls. To protect students' privacy and push back against discrimination, I urge the Alaska State Board of Education and Department of Education and Early Development to oppose these changes: let trans students be part of the team.

Sincerely,
Ms. Ann Dougherty

[REDACTED]

From: [Carrie Bjorn-Roli](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Women's and Girl's sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 9:48:56 PM

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Please act to protect female sports and the intent of Title IV by only allowing biological females from birth to participate in female sports.

Thank you for your sincere consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,
Carrie Bjorn-Roli

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Esther Joseph](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 9:53:57 PM

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CAUTION: This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Commissioner,

Please do not adopt changes to Alaska Administrative Code (4 AAC 06.115) that would violate all students' privacy and separate trans girls from their peers.

The Alaska State Board of Education's mission is "An Excellent Education for Every Student Every Day." Adopting these regulation changes would be a blatant violation of this mission by denying transgender girls the ability to participate fully in sports and school communities. These proposed changes will profoundly violate all students' privacy by forcing educators and coaches to identify and separate transgender youth from their peers.

Making changes to Alaska Administrative Code does not solve any real issue and instead actively stigmatizes, isolates, and denies basic participation in school activities to trans girls. To protect students' privacy and push back against discrimination, I urge the Alaska State Board of Education and Department of Education and Early Development to oppose these changes: let trans students be part of the team.

Sincerely,
Ms. Esther Joseph

[REDACTED]

From: [Jacqueline Savina](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Support for proposed regulation
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 11:02:11 PM

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Department of Education and Early Development
Attn: Regulations Review 333 Willoughby Ave., 9th Floor State Office Building P.O. Box 110500 Juneau, Alaska 99811-0500

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed regulation recently put forth by the State Board of Education and Early Development. As a recent graduate of Dimond High School and a former competitive swimmer, I believe that this regulation is crucial in ensuring fairness, safety, and equal opportunities for female students in middle and high school athletics.

Having personally participated in competitive sports, I understand the importance of fair competition and equal opportunities for all athletes. While I appreciate the benefits of inclusion and diversity, I believe that it is essential to recognize the physiological differences between males and females, especially during adolescence.

By implementing this regulation, which seeks to prevent boys from competing in any exclusively girls' divisions, the Department of Education and Early Development will create a level playing field for female athletes. This will enable them to compete against their peers based on their inherent physical capabilities and will help maintain the integrity of women's sports.

Furthermore, ensuring fairness and safety in middle and high school athletics is not only essential for the individual athletes but also for the overall development of sports programs. By upholding these principles, the Department will inspire confidence and encourage more girls to participate in sports, fostering a supportive environment for their physical and emotional growth.

I commend the State Board of Education and Early Development for proposing this regulation, and I urge you to give it your full support. By doing so, you will be taking a significant step toward providing equal opportunities for female athletes and promoting fairness and integrity in our educational institutions.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Jackie Savina

Jackie Savina



From: [Kerry](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Transgender girls in sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 8:17:48 PM

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I fully support the participation of transgender girls on sports teams that match their gender identity. I feel sorry that this topic makes so many people frightened and angry. I hope that decency and kindness prevail.

Kerry Ozer , MD

[REDACTED]
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Mae Dunsing](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Prohibited transgender girls from participating on girls sports teams.
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 9:01:57 PM

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Years ago we were all excited when Title 9 was passed and gave females equal rights in sports. Now biological males want to destroy the girls rights. Please protect rights of girls.

From: [Randy Talvi](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Girls sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 9:46:03 PM

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I am a retired Middle School Physical Education teacher and Coach of many sports. From my experience I have seen first hand why it is unfair to biological girls to allow boys to compete with them one on one, regardless of the boys' confusion about their gender.

It is very simple. In order to be fair and equitable you need to separate boys and girls based on their biological differences.

If you are going to do coed activities or sports it needs to be stated, designed and structured as such in order to be fair and equitable.

Randy
[REDACTED]

From: [Robin Brandt](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Transgender Participation in High School Sports
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 9:26:58 PM

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Thank you for accepting public comments on the proposal to limit participation on girls high school sports to “females who were assigned female at birth.”

If a boy (a transgender girl) participates as a girl in sports, “she” has an unfair advantage over the other participants. No matter that the transgender girl feels she is female inside, she has the body of a boy. A male’s body is built differently, naturally stronger than the female body. Her mind, her feelings, cannot change that fact.

Thank you again for allowing public comment on this matter.

All the best,

Robin Brandt

Robin Brandt, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Susan Lilly](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: 4AAC 06.115(b)(5)
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 10:32:18 PM

[You don't often get email from smlillyuaa11@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Dear Commissioner Andrews,

Hello,

I am a woman, a former educator, I graduated from an Alaskan high school, and a former high school athlete. I am asking for the board to protect women who are playing sports from unfair competition by prohibiting biological males who are struggling with gender dysphoria from competing against women who are playing as women.

Whether it is against men who may be taking hormone-blockers, men who have passed puberty, or men who merely want to be socially transitioned, it is not equitable to permit men to compete—and replace women—in sports, to defeat female competitors on the field of play merely because the men want to compete as “women” because of how they identify.

Why is it that few women want to transition and play sports against young men? Because physiologically they would be outclassed and would never make the team without hormone assistance. The ratio of men wanting to compete as women versus women wanting to compete as men should be indicative of how disproportionate this issue is in favor of biological men playing as women.

In the classroom, my male and female students were extremely competitive with each other in terms of ability, academic acumen, and academic skills. Yet as a female, there was not a single class I had where the tallest student was female. I was frequently the shortest person in the room. The female students were strong, some were athletic, but that was true of the male students too.

If we were to examine the times for racing events—swimming, running, skiing, etc.—at every level of competition, men consistently, perhaps universally, have faster and better times than the women athletes do. Usain Bolt is (or was) the fastest man alive, but the fastest woman is still slower. Kikkan Randall was a great Olympian, but her times were still slower than the men’s fastest times, though men frequently have longer racing distances in cross country skiing, especially at the high school level.

At every measure, women can compete very well against their female competitors, but such competitive teams as equally matched, skilled and subject to the same challenges and hazards. By introducing biological men into the competition field would negate the idea of an equal playing field.

Even if teams were co-ed due to numbers, there are still risks of physical differences on such teams, however, and there is nothing preventing trans-identifying students who want to compete in events as the opposite gender from doing so if such mixed gender leagues were permitted. There would still be risks inherent to such co-ed mixed teams. Athletes who are wanting to compete in single-gender sports leagues should be competing in the sports league of their biological gender (with a few exceptions for female soccer players kicking for their high school football teams, but the playing time for such a position is completely different from being an offensive tackle).

Title IX was created to give women in education opportunities, on and off the field. When there have been so many advances in opportunity, access, and experiences for women—and men—why are we wanting to shrink such options for women because some men want to compete against them? If biological men want to compete on the playing field, they need to be free to do so against men. Women deserve the same opportunity to compete against biological

women.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,
Susan Lilly



From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Sven Sorge](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: I am writing to you today regarding a very important issue
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 10:03:27 PM

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Dear Commissioner Heidi Teshner,

I oppose the proposed regulation changes to 4 AAC 06 dealing with school sports.

Sincerely,
Mr. Sven Sorge

[REDACTED]

From: [Adele Morgan](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Preserve high school female sports
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 11:42:40 AM

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To whom it may concern,

I participated in girls sports during middle school, high school and college. If I had to have competed against transgender females, I wouldn't have had a chance to win the many trophies, medals and self-confidence, that I garnered for hard work and dedication to my sport. It is somewhat unbelievable that we are even debating this.

“I support proposed changes to the interscholastic activities regulation which preserves high school female sports and limits participation to only girls who are female at birth.”

Thank you for using common sense!

Adele Morgan

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Allanah Gonzalez](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: 4 AAC 06.115(b)(5) Amendment
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 9:06:03 AM

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Good Morning,

We should only allow biological females to compete against biological females. This will protect girls sports instead of erasing female competitors.

Thank you,
Allanah Gonzalez

From: [Andrea Briggs](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Support for Only Biological Girl in Sports
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 10:44:57 AM

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To whom it concerns,

I support proposed changes to the interscholastic activities regulation which preserves high school female sports and limits participation to only girls who are female at birth.

This is a matter of genetics, God created every cell in our bodies to tell us what we are, what He made us, male or female.

Best Regards,

Andrea Briggs
[REDACTED]

Sent from Proton Mail for iOS

From: [Alaska Online Public Notices](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: New Comment on NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES ON INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES IN THE REGULATIONS OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 5:23:57 PM

A new comment has been submitted on the public notice [NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES ON INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES IN THE REGULATIONS OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT](#).

Submitted:

6/24/2023 5:23:52 PM

Carie Murphy

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Anonymous User

Comment:

I support proposed changes to the interscholastic activities regulation which preserves high school female sports and limits participation to only girls who are female at birth. We need to ensure fairness, safety and equal opportunity for female athletes.

You can review all comments on this notice by [clicking here](#).

[Alaska Online Public Notices](#)

From: [Carmen DeVilbiss](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Support our girls.
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 10:26:28 AM

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I am writing in regards to your proposed changes to the interscholastic activities regulation which preserves female sports and limits participation to only girls who are female at birth. I support these changes. Our girls need to have equal opportunities in athletics. Why would we not protect their hard work and dedication to all that they have accomplished for themselves. It is wrong to make them compete against biological males.

Thank you,
Carmen DeVilbiss
[REDACTED]

From: [Chris Morriseau](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Transgenders in women's sports
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 12:25:27 PM

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I have two granddaughters, one in college and one in high school. My youngest will be a junior at West High School in Anchorage this coming school year.

Savanna, 16, play's women's volleyball and women's soccer in school and is on a women's traveling volleyball team. She loves the sport and is pretty good. However she could not compete on a boys team and I would not expect her to.

For as long as mankind can remember there has been an acknowledged difference between men and women. Men have larger lung capacity, heavier bone density, are stronger, usually taller and generally bigger. How, then, do you expect women to compete against that? They can't.

Transgenderism is a choice and I have nothing against that. But you cannot make a woman out of a man or a man out of a woman no matter how many hormones you feed them or how many surgeries you perform on them.

We don't get everything in life we want and if men want to try to be women they SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED to compete in women's sports. Title IX was voted in for a reason, to protect women.

You cannot erase actual women just because some men don't like being men anymore and want to take over our rolls. It is not right, it is not fair and it is not safe. Women have already been seriously injured with men encroaching on their sports.

Men can wear all the dresses they want and all the make-up they want but guess what? They are still men. So stay out of our bathrooms, stay out of our locker rooms and stay out of our sports.

In other words stay in your own lane.

Please please please protect our girls and women. It is the only right thing to do.

Thank you
Chris Morriseau



Sent from my iPhone

From: [Deborah Vandruff](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Let the girls play
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 9:47:10 AM

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I am writing to support the transgender girls! High school is hard enough without extra stigma and exclusion for kids. Learning to win and lose are part of sports and all should have that chance. All people have their advantages physically and mentally. Look at that recent 7' 4" basketball recruit for the San Antonio Spurs. Hasn't he got an huge advantage over everyone else? Maybe there should be a maximum height for the sport!

Let the kids play-if adults stop sniping at kids who are different, the kids will be ok.

Deborah Vandruff, RN

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Donna Millwood](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Women's rights
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 4:22:16 PM

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There are so many things that are so wrong about this whole movement that it's exhausting America and defies logic.

In a political attempt at being "inclusive", approximately 95% of women are being "excluded" simply by being a female. How is this a fair share?

How many trans men would agree to compete in a sport against a trans woman I doubt very many, unless you classify tiddlywinks as a sport.

Have a trans woman, and a trans man of the same weight and height try on the same size dress and shoes and see what she needs altering.

How many trans men have you heard of trying to enter the locker room bathroom or shower of a trans woman? Are there still laws against indecent exposure exposing one's self peeping toms or voyeurism?

Government guidance on alcohol is two drinks for men a day and one drink a day for women. I'm pretty sure that's because men have a bigger body mass than women.

Auto crash tests are requesting money to make women crash dummies. Pretty sure that's because you guessed it.....women have less body mass and muscle.

Did you know that DNA can identify a biological sex?

Donna Millwood
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

From: [Geoffrey Hershberger](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Transgender is n such thing
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 10:32:02 PM

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There is no such thing as a transgender girl. Only a mentally ill male dressing, acting and pretending to be a female. This is clearly defined by science and biology.

If a boy wants to play a sport and pretend to be a girl let him do so on a co-ed team.

Time to treat the homosexual and alphabet community as the mental illness it is.

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Henrik Brandt](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 9:24:50 PM

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Dear Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Commissioner,

Please do not adopt changes to Alaska Administrative Code (4 AAC 06.115) that would violate all students' privacy and separate trans girls from their peers.

The Alaska State Board of Education's mission is "An Excellent Education for Every Student Every Day." Adopting these regulation changes would be a blatant violation of this mission by denying transgender girls the ability to participate fully in sports and school communities. These proposed changes will profoundly violate all students' privacy by forcing educators and coaches to identify and separate transgender youth from their peers.

Making changes to Alaska Administrative Code does not solve any real issue and instead actively stigmatizes, isolates, and denies basic participation in school activities to trans girls. To protect students' privacy and push back against discrimination, I urge the Alaska State Board of Education and Department of Education and Early Development to oppose these changes: let trans students be part of the team.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Andrews, Janell L (EED)

From: Holly Rogers [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, June 24, 2023 7:14 PM
To: Commissioner, DEED (EED sponsored)
Subject: Discrimination has no place in Alaska

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: Yellow category

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I am writing in opposition to the proposed policy shift to discriminate against trans girls. Girls come in all shapes and sizes. Sports have never been "fair" as all bodies are not created equal. Let ALL the girls play sports. Discrimination and hate have no place in Alaska.

Holly Rogers

--

This email has been checked for viruses by AVG antivirus software.

<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.avg.com%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cdeed.commissioner%40alaska.gov%7C4529a42275f746bf56b208db752a399b%7C20030bf67ad942f7927359ea83fca38%7C0%7C0%7C638232596481078846%7CUnknown%7CTWFPbGZsb3d8eyJWljoIMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiv2luMzliLCJBTil6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C2000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=yDML4b9PDy2Cg3Coihqo6SpZdpvVDIN%2Fy9For8dCCoQ%3D&reserved=0>

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Jasmyne Johnson](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: IMPORTANT! Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 3:10:05 PM

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Dear Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Commissioner,

Please do not adopt changes to Alaska Administrative Code (4 AAC 06.115) that would violate all students' privacy and separate trans girls from their peers.

As a lifelong Alaskan I am writing you today to express my disappointment in this continued attempt to legislate students for being who they are. I have been an educator for nearly a decade, and this type of legislation HARMS children.

The Alaska State Board of Education's mission is "An Excellent Education for Every Student Every Day." Adopting these regulation changes would be a blatant violation of this mission by denying transgender girls the ability to participate fully in sports and school communities. These proposed changes will profoundly violate all students' privacy by forcing educators and coaches to identify and separate transgender youth from their peers.

Making changes to Alaska Administrative Code does not solve any real issue and instead actively stigmatizes, isolates, and denies basic participation in school activities to trans girls. To protect students' privacy and push back against discrimination, I urge the Alaska State Board of Education and Department of Education and Early Development to oppose these changes: let trans students be part of the team.

Sincerely,
Mx Jasmyne Johnson

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Jessie Wattum](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 12:37:04 PM

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Making changes to Alaska Administrative Code does not solve any real issue and instead actively stigmatizes, isolates, and denies basic participation in school activities to trans girls. To protect students' privacy and push back against discrimination, I urge the Alaska State Board of Education and Department of Education and Early Development to oppose these changes: let trans students be part of the team.

Sincerely,
Ms. Jessie Wattum

[REDACTED]

From: [Jillian McCoy](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: High School Sports Bill
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 8:16:52 PM

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I firmly believe that thinking about making this a regulation of any kind is abhorrent and I would be deeply ashamed to live in a state that thinks it's a good idea to enact policies like this. Who are these girls hurting by playing a sport? Nobody is the only acceptable answer, and never passing a bill like this is the only acceptable decision.

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [John Duncan](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 1:24:28 PM

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Sincerely,
Mr. John Duncan

[REDACTED]

From: [Jon Kurland](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Comment on Girls High School Sports Proposal
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 8:37:29 PM

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I'm writing to comment on the proposed regulatory change that would limit participation on girls' high school sports teams to "females who were assigned female at birth." This is a hateful proposal that is being advanced under the guise of equity, and I strongly oppose it. Trans girls are extraordinarily vulnerable human beings who deserve every opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities alongside other girls. The purported concern that trans girls have unfair physical advantages that allow them to outcompete other girls in sports is blown way out of proportion and is simply an excuse to allow fear and hatred of trans people to be institutionalized. If adopted, this regulatory change would severely harm students who seek nothing more than equal opportunities to engage in sports and have fun alongside their peers. Please reject this mean spirited proposal. Thank you.

Jon Kurland
[REDACTED]

From: [Joni](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Girls sports
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 11:33:52 AM

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Hello,

I have a 15 year old girl who plays sports on girl teams for ASD. We are completely opposed to males in a female sport. It is physically dangerous because of the upper body strength of males.

I know my child will stop participating in sports should trans be her competitors. I believe many, many females will step away. After all the years we have fought for women sports, this is illogical and wrong. Please do not let trans play in female sports at schools!

Thank you,
Joni Burley

[REDACTED]
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Judith Burtner](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Comment on limiting transgender girls in high school sports
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 8:53:34 AM

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This is a tough one. I believe that all children (these are our children) should play, should enjoy the thrill of working with a team. In fact, high school sports have become competitive rather than participatory. This possible ruling leaves out transgender girls who will have no option for these team sports. Herein lies the dilemma.

Each of these young people deserve our care. I sense a feeling of exclusion in recent discussions, not care and respect for each person on this earth. I ask you to be kind to all our young people in your deliberations.

Judith Burtner
[REDACTED]

From: [Karen Fedelem](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Comment
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 4:38:15 PM

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High school sports needs to be regulated to preserve girls sports to include only girls who are female at birth, based on anatomical and biological characteristics. This will ensure safety, fairness, and equality to females in sports.

Karen

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Katie Yako](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: I am writing to you today regarding a very important issue
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 2:23:30 PM

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Dear Commissioner Heidi Teshner,

I oppose the proposed regulation changes to 4 AAC 06 dealing with school sports.

Sincerely,
Miss Katie Yako

[REDACTED]

From: [Keith Hamilton](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Girl's Sports
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 3:49:26 PM

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DEED Leadership and Board,

I wish to personally support DEED moving forward unanimously regarding changes to the interscholastic activities regulation which preserves high school female sports and limits participation to only girls who are female at birth. This is our state's best option for the safety and health of all Alaskan children every day. Thank you,

--

Dr. Keith J. Hamilton
Follower of Christ, Husband, and Dad

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Kelsey Lellig](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 2:09:39 PM

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Dear Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Commissioner,

Please do not adopt changes to Alaska Administrative Code (4 AAC 06.115) that would violate all students' privacy and separate trans girls from their peers.

The Alaska State Board of Education's mission is "An Excellent Education for Every Student Every Day." Adopting these regulation changes would be a blatant violation of this mission by denying transgender girls the ability to participate fully in sports and school communities. These proposed changes will profoundly violate all students' privacy by forcing educators and coaches to identify and separate transgender youth from their peers.

Making changes to Alaska Administrative Code does not solve any real issue and instead actively stigmatizes, isolates, and denies basic participation in school activities to trans girls. To protect students' privacy and push back against discrimination, I urge the Alaska State Board of Education and Department of Education and Early Development to oppose these changes: let trans students be part of the team.

Sincerely,
Miss Kelsey Lellig

[REDACTED]

From: [Kim Smith](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Female by birth only in girls' sports
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 9:43:10 AM

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Dear Commissioner,

I am in support of changing the Alaska law to have only females by BIRTH participate in girls' sports. Please let me know who else I should write to voice my opinion so this is passed. Thank you.

Kim Smith, [REDACTED]
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kim Thompson](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Female Sports
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 9:24:11 AM

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Please defend the Female right to have only female born in female sports! It is so obvious, that it is unfair to the young ladies who have put forth a life time of dedication to the sport!

Please defend woman's sports ! Thanks

Send from Kimtucky

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Kristal Perez](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: I am writing to you today regarding a very important issue
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 3:50:41 PM

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Dear Commissioner Heidi Teshner,

I oppose the proposed regulation changes to 4 AAC 06 dealing with school sports.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Kristal Perez

[REDACTED]

From: [Kyle Ferguson](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Comment regarding trans "girls" in sports
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 8:17:16 AM

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I am opposed to allowing men or boys who identify as females participating in girls' sports. In fact, it disgusts me putting this concept into practice cancels the hard-won rights and dignity of girls and women. It is a literal mockery of women. As a father, the idea of my daughter's sporting accomplishments being upended by a biological male simply because he chooses to claim femininity is blatantly unfair. The concept is as offensive to me as is the old theater practice of whites performing in "blackface". Are women now to forfeit the gains they've made in the last century regarding the recognition of their dignity and worth in order to appease the very abandonment of reality and common sense?

I am also vehemently opposed to the other thing that goes along with this issue: boys in girls locker rooms. I will not stand for my daughter sharing a locker room with males in any circumstances.

In other areas of the country there are large numbers of people buying into this madness. I appreciate the reality-based thinking of Alaskans, and I want to thank the Department of Education for bringing forth this proposal. I trust you make the right decision on this matter and choose to protect the rights and dignity of our young ladies.

Kyle Ferguson,
[REDACTED]

Sent from [Outlook](#)

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Lisa Villano](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 6:23:10 PM

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Dear Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Commissioner,

Please do not adopt changes to Alaska Administrative Code (4 AAC 06.115) that would violate all students' privacy and separate trans girls from their peers.

The Alaska State Board of Education's mission is "An Excellent Education for Every Student Every Day." Adopting these regulation changes would be a blatant violation of this mission by denying transgender girls the ability to participate fully in sports and school communities. These proposed changes will profoundly violate all students' privacy by forcing educators and coaches to identify and separate transgender youth from their peers.

Making changes to Alaska Administrative Code does not solve any real issue and instead actively stigmatizes, isolates, and denies basic participation in school activities to trans girls. To protect students' privacy and push back against discrimination, I urge the Alaska State Board of Education and Department of Education and Early Development to oppose these changes: let trans students be part of the team.

Sincerely,
Ms. Lisa Villano

[REDACTED]

From: [Lyndsey Sanchez](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Save Girls Sports
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 3:04:19 PM

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4 AAC 06.115(b)(5) is proposed to be changed as follows: to require nonprofit associations that administer and promote interscholastic activities in Alaska to ensure fairness, safety, and equal opportunity for female students in high school athletics by limiting participation in separate high school athletics teams for female students in competitive or contact sports to females who were assigned female at birth.

I support the idea of ensuring that girls have a way to compete only against other girls only, and only share a locker room with other girls. It is a shame that today that some insist we don't know what a girl is, but a girl is a young female human who is born with at least 2 x chromosomes. She will have a vagina and her doctor and parents can tell her gender visually at birth, and if not, a blood or DNA test can determine that at birth. **I support using a child's gender on their birth certificate to establish gender, if it's not visually obvious to the coach, the parents, and all of the athletes on the team. By the way, my husband and two teenage children agree with me. One is male, one is female.**

- Lyndsey Bertoldo
[REDACTED]

From: [Madeleine Grant](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Transgender restrictions
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 8:57:04 AM

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Hello

I am a 67-year-old primary care physician. I knew people in college who were transgender and then later would sometimes see folks in my practice. This is a biological problem, and many if not, most of these people have really suffered because they are different.

Teenagers are at a critical time in their lives, all figuring out their sexuality, and, particularly nowadays, at higher risk of emotional disorders with higher rates of suicide.

Please do not pass these restrictions on transgender girls in high school sports.

Thank you for your work

Madeleine Grant MD

From: [marilee nufer](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Protect Girls' Sports
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 2:10:50 PM

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Attention: Janell Andrews

I would like to encourage you, as Alaskan policy makers, to please protect girls from being hurt due to having to compete with biological males, especially in sports such as volleyball and basketball. In addition, please pass legislation and policies to protect all female sports, whether that means adding in a new "open" category for anyone or just restricting girl's sports to biological females. Title IX was passed to provide equal access for males and females but the intent of the law was for everyone to have an opportunity to participate and compete, however, when biological males compete against females, that takes away females' opportunity to be competitive in sports, takes away scholarships and increases the chances of being hurt by stronger biological males, that is not equal access. I urge you to protect girls and girls' sports.

From: [mark miller](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Transgenders in women's sports
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 8:55:25 AM

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This insanity has to stop. Why aren't there ANY female to male transgenders trying to compete against biological males if there isn't an advantage to going through puberty for men? People are trying to eradicate women in sports and in life apparently. Just because you wear woman face doesn't make you a woman any more that dressing up like a horse makes you a horse. If this insanity isn't stopped there will be a revolt against it and that won't be pretty. They constantly say they're (transgendered) are under attack when they are the ones attacking women in general. If it continues they might find that they are under attack and then they would know what that term means. We can't allow women to be belittled in this way. Women are the foundation of society and need our protection from the MEN attacking them. I never thought in all my years that this would even be a thing but here we are, watching the decline of western society by design. I refuse to play along and I hope that you people will have the courage to do the same.

Mark Miller

Sent from my minds eye

From: [mary.stevens](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Trans Girls in Sports
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 3:28:16 PM

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Thank you for this opportunity for public comment.

I support prohibiting transgender girls from participating on girls sports teams because males have a biological advantage over females in sports. Girls sports teams should be limited to those who were assigned female at birth.

Please do what you can to protect the privacy of our youth in the bathrooms and locker rooms.

Everyone should be able to compete where it is fair and safe.

Thank you.

Mary Stevens, [REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Matt and Beth Dobson](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: SB 140 Public comments
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 10:22:31 AM

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Janell,

As the parents of a biological female student/athlete, my wife and I strongly support SB 140 to protect the integrity and fairness of women's sports.

Matt and Beth Dobson

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [mckayla montgomery](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 4:35:05 PM

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Dear Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Commissioner,

Please do not adopt changes to Alaska Administrative Code (4 AAC 06.115) that would violate all students' privacy and separate trans girls from their peers.

The Alaska State Board of Education's mission is "An Excellent Education for Every Student Every Day." Adopting these regulation changes would be a blatant violation of this mission by denying transgender girls the ability to participate fully in sports and school communities. These proposed changes will profoundly violate all students' privacy by forcing educators and coaches to identify and separate transgender youth from their peers.

Making changes to Alaska Administrative Code does not solve any real issue and instead actively stigmatizes, isolates, and denies basic participation in school activities to trans girls. To protect students' privacy and push back against discrimination, I urge the Alaska State Board of Education and Department of Education and Early Development to oppose these changes: let trans students be part of the team.

Sincerely,
Miss mckayla montgomery

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Mike Parker](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 5:39:56 PM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Mike Parker

[REDACTED]

From: [Monica Miller](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Preserve high school female sports
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 7:06:39 AM

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Alaska State Board of Education
To whom it may concern:

I strongly support proposed changes to the interscholastic activities regulation which preserves high school female sports and limits participation to only girls who are female at birth.

I believe we are doing a disservice to women as a whole, and going backwards on women's rights, which we fought so hard for, if we allow biological (at birth) boys/men to compete in girl's and women's sports. Please protect the fairness and equality for our girls and young women athletes.

Thank you,
Monica Miller

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Morgan McPherson](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 2:55:51 PM

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Making changes to Alaska Administrative Code does not solve any real issue and instead actively stigmatizes, isolates, and denies basic participation in school activities to trans girls. To protect students' privacy and push back against discrimination, I urge the Alaska State Board of Education and Department of Education and Early Development to oppose these changes: let trans students be part of the team.

Sincerely,
Mr Morgan McPherson

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Morolayo Waller](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 1:17:45 AM

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Dear Alaska Department of Education and Early Development Commissioner,

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Sincerely,
Ms. Morolayo Waller

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Mazio Anderson](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 1:21:50 PM

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Sincerely,
Mx Mazio Anderson

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Meli Syphus](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 1:55:00 PM

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Sincerely,
Mx. Meli Syphus

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Nekoda Cooper](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 12:00:40 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Nekoda Cooper

[REDACTED]

From: [Patricia B Baum](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Public Comments for Proposed Changes to 4 AAC 06 (4 AAC.06 115(b)(5))
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 7:50:17 AM

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Dear Janell,

I am stating my public comments regarding the change to 4 AAC.06 currently stuck in legislation with the State of Alaska.

As an Alaskan citizen and female, I am strongly in favor of safeguarding women's sports in our state. Trans females competing against physical females is WRONG. It is wholly unfair and spits in the face of any integrity in sports. It disenfranchises natural born females and that is wrong.

If the trans communities seek to be recognized, why not have an entirely new category for trans females to compete? The same would be for trans males wanting to compete in men's sports. Funny the trans males wanting to participate in men's sports is not such a controversy as trans females. That's because they KNOW their advantage is not there. And it is WRONG for trans females to usurp natural born females the opportunity to excel in their sports fairly.

Participation in female sports should be restricted to only natural born females at birth. Period.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Patricia Baum
[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Rachel Allen](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 3:51:13 PM

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Sincerely,
Miss Rachel Allen

[REDACTED]

From: [Sandy Blomfield](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Female athletes rights protected
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 5:45:46 AM

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To whom it may concern,

Please note many Alaskans are in favor of biological females competing only against biological females and vice versa for males.

Understanding the biological difference between sexes is the reason for this affirmation.

Please consider limiting participation to same genders for fairness in athletics.

Thank you,

Sandy Blomfield

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [shyann dumont](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 4:35:07 PM

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Sincerely,
Miss shyann dumont

[REDACTED]

From: [Stan Williams](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: In Favor of Limiting Girl's Sports to Only Females Assigned as Females at Birth
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 8:17:18 PM

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Dear Commissioner,

I am sending this letter in support of limiting school's Girl's Sports to Only Females who have been assigned as females at birth.

As a parent of a daughter who participated in Alaska high school sports (Eagle River High School), it is incomprehensible to think anyone would even think it is fair or safe to allow transgendered girls (still biologically a boy) to compete with females.

My daughter worked hard to earn an athletic scholarship which would have been unlikely if transgendered girls had been allowed to compete.

Consideration must also be given to the high risks of sexual assaults that will occur by allowing boys (transgendered girls) in changing rooms, and during overnight travels to competitions. The State of Alaska will be held legally responsible for permitting these sexual crimes, and will have difficulty in finding coaches who would be willing to be in charge of these hazardous environments. In addition these sexual crimes will destroy the mental health of these victimized female athletes for the rest of their lives. Alaska already has the notorious distinction of having the highest sexual crime rate in the nation.

I trust you'll make the safest and fairest decision by prohibiting transgendered girls from competing with biological females. Please stand up and advocate for the female athletes and their parents who are counting on you to do the right thing.

Sincerely,
Steve and Sarah Wilson

From: [Susan Hutton](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Please consider carefully
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 10:27:03 PM

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Please consider carefully the rights of biological women who have come a long way in the past hundred years or so and now are losing ground to biological men.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Tatiana Krutke](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Protect student privacy and let ALL kids play
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 5:43:16 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs Tatiana Krutke

[REDACTED]

From: [Ty Miller](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Public comment submission - transgender high school sports
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 6:26:56 PM

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Hello, this is my submission for the proposal regarding transgender girls in high school sports. As afforded to me by the Alaska department of education and early development.

Gender is an extremely personal situation and everyone is entitled to their own. This fact is parallel to all the other human rights we are given at birth. We get to select our name, the clothes we wear, the words we speak, the food we eat.

Regardless of context, we are afforded opportunities as a condition of being human. To ban specific humans from high school sports is counter intuitive to the culture Alaskans have lived by for all of our lives. And it is counter intuitive to our most basic fundamental rights. Why cant Susan and Charlotte BOTH play in sports? Because of gender? Thats not acceptable.

The opportunity to play a sport should be an opportunity afforded to all of us, just as going to school is an opportunity we are all entitled to. If you can ban a person (a child, mind you) from participating in school activities for reasons other than disciplinary reasons, that ban is nothing more than hate hiding in a trench coat.

Sure, ban the trans people from sports. Without another opportunity given to them to play sports, they are left as victims of hate. And you are left as the perpetrator.

If you are to ban trans girls from sports, you need to offer a substitute opportunity for them that offers the same outcome afforded to the other students. Another else would be an act of bigotry and a spit in the face to every Alaskan, regardless of their genders.

-Ty Miller

From: [Yvonne Marty](#)
To: [Commissioner, DEED \(EED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Limiting transgender participation in sports
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 7:08:29 PM

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> Hello

> I was an coach and educator for years from the 1980s through the late 1990s. I want to voice my support on the proposed changes to the interscholastic activities regulation which preserves high school female sports and limits participation to only girls who are female at birth.

> Our state needs to ensure fairness, safety and equal opportunity for female born athletes. Without this limit, our female sport members will dwindle and soon cease to exist. Please limit transgender students to participate in sports based on their chosen identity! Sincerely

> Yvonne Marty

> [REDACTED]

>

Sent from my iPhone