STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD

Requested by: U.S. House of Representatives

Committee on Oversight and Accountability

Subcommittee on Health Care and Financial Services

2157 Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

From:

National Collegiate Athletic Association

Date:

December 4, 2023

For more than a decade, the National College Athletic Association's Policy on Transgender Student-Athlete Participation has provided guidance to Division I, II and III member schools that seek to provide a pathway to opportunity for transgender student-athletes to participate in intercollegiate athletics. Under the NCAA's constitution, all Association-wide policies are made by the Board of Governors. The Board's policy for transgender athlete participation is guided by recommendations from the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports – a group of athletics administrators, coaches, sports medicine staff, physicians, scientists, faculty and student-athletes elected by their peers from all 1,100 member institutions.

In January 2022, the Board of Governors adopted an <u>updated</u>, more restrictive transgender student-athlete participation policy. This new policy aligns with the 2021 <u>International Olympic Committee framework</u> which states unequivocally the need to address fairness, inclusion and nondiscrimination in sport on the basis of gender identity and sex variations. This sport-by-sport approach balances the Association's values of fairness, inclusion and opportunity and has three phases of implementation. The current phase of implementation, effective since August 2022, requires transgender student-athletes to provide documentation that: (1) meets the <u>2010 NCAA policy</u> (one year of testosterone suppression treatment); and (2) meets the sport standard for documented testosterone levels at three points in time. Additionally, the policy notes that NCAA member schools must follow local, state and federal policy and legislation and recognizes individual schools' authority over if and how they should apply the policy.

In addition to competition guidance, institutions that host NCAA championships must follow local, state and federal law and the NCAA Board of Governors antidiscrimination policy when providing locker room space for championship participants. Under the antidiscrimination policy, NCAA championship hosts must also be able to deliver and maintain an environment that is safe, healthy and free of discrimination and respects the dignity of all persons. Locker room, changing room and restroom options specific for the sport and separately available to men and women are provided for each championship site. For the Division I Swimming and Diving Championships, single-person, gender-neutral options are also available for participants. All event details for Swimming and Diving and other championships, including locker room, changing room and restroom details, are outlined for participants in a Participant Manual. This manual is made available in advance of any championship, sent directly to the head coaches at the time of selection and is expected to be communicated with participating college athletes. Like the transgender student-athlete participation policy, guidance on facilities provided to host institutions is informed by local, state, and federal law, industry best practices and, in some cases, policies of other sport governing bodies.