

## Opposition Letter to H.R. 1028

January 12, 2026

Dear Member of Congress,

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we reject the continued legislative assault on transgender, nonbinary, and intersex people, including categorical bans on participating in sporting activities. We oppose H.R. 1028, the so-called Protection of Women in Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, which will not protect women and girls and instead is designed to further stigmatize and exclude transgender, nonbinary, and intersex people.

This discriminatory proposal seeks to exclude transgender, nonbinary, and intersex people from athletics programs, ranging from youth club sports up through Olympic levels. The bill would amend the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act to require all National Governing Bodies to ban transgender girls and women from participating. It also adds new definitions of “male,” “female,” and “sex” that aim to erase the existence of transgender, intersex, and nonbinary people.

Although the authors of the legislation represent themselves as serving the interests of cisgender girls and women, this legislation does not address the longstanding barriers all girls and women have faced in their pursuit of athletics. Instead of addressing the concerns advocates for women and girls’ athletics have raised for decades—including equal pay, facilities, equipment, and travel—the bill is a cynically veiled attack on transgender people.

Sports often play a significant role in children’s lives and development, helping them to develop critical life skills like communication, self-discipline, teamwork, and leadership. Sports spaces are imperative for all people, no matter their gender. Transgender, nonbinary, and intersex youth want to participate in team sports for the same reasons as their cisgender peers, and denying them a chance to do so only serves to further isolate and stigmatize these youth.

Further, targeting and excluding transgender, nonbinary, and intersex people from participation in athletics programs alongside their cisgender peers is harmful to all participants. H.R. 1028’s intrusive focus on scrutiny of athletes’ bodies will effectively exclude girls and women with intersex variations from participation, invite scrutiny and harassment of any other person perceived as not conforming to sex stereotypes, and will likely be disproportionately used to target girls and women of color.

We ask all Members of Congress to strongly oppose H.R. 1028 and reject attacks on transgender, nonbinary, and intersex people, and to commit themselves to meaningfully advancing policies that support equal opportunity.

Sincerely,

- Advocates for Youth
- American Atheists
- American Civil Liberties Union
- Americans United for Separation of Church and State
- Athlete Ally
- CenterLink: The Community of LGBTQ Centers
- Council for Global Equality
- Equality California
- FORGE, Inc.
- GLSEN
- Human Rights Campaign
- Know Your IX (Advocates for Youth)
- Lambda Legal
- Mazzone Center
- MomsRising
- Movement Advancement Project
- National Black Justice Coalition
- National Center for Lesbian Rights
- National Center for Transgender Equality
- National Council of Jewish Women
- National LGBTQ Task Force
- National LGBTQ+ Bar Association
- National Women's Law Center
- PFLAG National
- Pride at Work
- Reproductive Freedom for All
- Silver State Equality-Nevada
- The Trevor Project
- Transgender Law Center
- Union for Reform Judaism
- Women of Reform Judaism