

SB 381  
Senate Education, Energy and the Environment Committee  
Support  
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Montgomery County, LD 18  
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My name is Amy Waychoff and I have lived in Montgomery County for over 36 years. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 381, the Fairness in Girls' Sports Act.

As a competitor in volleyball, softball and tennis when I was a teenager, I have fond memories about how those activities improved my self esteem, and in particular, my body image. Being with a group of other teens of the same sex all working toward a common goal was empowering.

Today, we have decided that Title IX is not meant to empower women, but to empower men with gender dysphoria who believe they are entitled to play girls' and women's sports. This movement is taking Title IX and twisting it like a pretzel into something unrecognizable.

Last year, a top NCAA female swimmer from the University of Kentucky spoke out about her experiences competing against transgender athlete Lia Thomas. According to Riley Gaines, the most traumatic part of the competition was not in the swimming pool, but in the locker room: "We did not give our consent, they did not ask for our consent, but in that locker room we turned around and there's a 6'4" biological man dropping his pants and watching us undress. . . . [A year or two ago] this would have been considered some form of sexual assault [or] voyeurism."

Last week, I testified before the Ways and Means Committee in support of the House version of the bill, HB 47. During that hearing, one of the delegates made disparaging and condescending remarks towards a friend of mine. He accused her of not having

enough expertise on the bill's subject matter in order to testify. It was her first time testifying, and I believe he picked on her because he could tell she was new at this. His behavior was an affront to the right of citizens to have their voices heard by our *elected* officials. This same delegate spoke the next day during the committee's deliberations on the bill. He outright lied about what we had said in support of this straightforward, commonsense bill. What a disappointment for someone elected to represent ***all*** of his constituents.

Women deserve to have their dressing rooms, and the opportunities for sports scholarships, reserved for their own sex. I therefore strongly support the Fairness in Girls' Sports Act.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.