



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANNE WEIR		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 10:21 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: BEV EHLEN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-608-0168	
REPRESENTING: LIBERTY LINK MISSOURI		TITLE: PRESIDENT	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 312			
CITY: WARRENTON		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63383
EMAIL: bevehlen@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 8:36 AM	
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This is just a common sense decision. Females have much to lose with this practice of allowing males to "compete" in female sports. Life is tough. Some individuals will be unhappy with a common sense decision such as this but it shouldn't keep those who are in position to speak the truth to do so. Thank you for speaking the truth.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BEV EHLEN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/17/2026 2:38 PM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CAROLYN J STONE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 11:09 PM
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Only biological girls should be allowed to play on girls sports teams and to compete. Any biological boy has XY chromosomes in every cell of his body which makes him totally different and physically stronger than any girl who has XX chromosomes in every cell of her body.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CINDY DEGGENDORF		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 5:16 PM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CLIF EHLEN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/17/2026 2:34 PM	
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CONNIE LARSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 7:10 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

{ support Hb 1973



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: DR. GUILLERMO VILLA-TRUEBA		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-7239	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI CATHOLIC CONFERENCE		TITLE: HISPANIC OUTREACH MANAGER	
ADDRESS: 600 CLARK AVE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: villatruebag@mocatholic.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 10:55 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

The Missouri Catholic Conference supports HB 1607, HB 1663, and HB 1973, as they would ensure that fundamental fairness and safety for female athletes seeking to participate in interscholastic sports remains the norm in Missouri. Preventing biological males from competing against biological females protects the dignity of female athletes, respects justice and the common good, and ensures that our laws comport with a proper understanding of human nature; this measure would achieve this laudable purpose conclusively. As Pope Francis has affirmed, a “prominent aspect of gender theory is that it intends to deny the greatest possible difference that exists between living beings: sexual difference. This foundational difference is not only the greatest imaginable difference but is also the most beautiful and powerful of them (...) In this sense, respect for both one’s own body and that of others is crucial in light of the proliferation of claims to new rights advanced by gender theory.” (Dignitas Infinita, 58-59)

The Missouri Catholic Conference urges the committee to vote “DO PASS” on HB 1607, HB 1663, and HB 1973.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: EDON SMITH		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 12:01 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: GERALD MOSS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 12:17 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JACQUIE THORSTENSEN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 10:04 PM	
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JANET L DABBS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 9:57 AM
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JAYDREAM		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/17/2026 6:51 PM	
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Trans rights are human rights.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JOANNE SCHRADER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2026 5:01 PM
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I support the original intent of Title IX for women's sports. Girls deserve the equal opportunity to play sports without being by a biological male. The only exception is on designated co-educational teams.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JUDY SOFKA		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 1:20 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LES J LARSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 7:27 PM
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I support HB 1973



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: NANCY K GREGORY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 9:29 PM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PATRICIA E HUEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 1:39 PM
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I strongly support HB 1973.

Boys do not belong in girls' sports. Boys are stronger and faster than girls. They have greater lung power. Has anyone not noticed that they invariably win? This robs girls not only of fair competition, but of scholarships and awards that are meant for girls, not boys. Sure, there are only a "few" boys doing this, but it impacts an entire sporting community, not just the one boy who thinks he's a girl: it impacts the girl who lost a place on a team so that the boy can take it, the other girls on that team, the the girls on the opposing team, and the entire set of games in the season. And it affects the families of these girls, and their future as well. It has a ripple effect that harms many.

I don't live in your state; I come from the state where much of this poison comes from. I am working to help end it by reaching out to states where these sensible laws are being proposed.

See Democrats for an Informed Approach to Gender (<https://www.di-ag.org/>). Even if you are not a Democrat, you will find this website most useful because it is full of information that any legislator should be aware of.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RANDALL STONE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 12:30 PM	
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Please support all bills to restrict or deny gender transition procedures and drugs for persons requesting the change of gender. Prevent any identified transgender persons to participate in any sports or other events other than their biological sex.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SHERLYN NAIL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 3:58 PM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: STEPHANIE RITTGERS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 7:00 PM
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I support fewer affirming care for trans individuals-it's is well documented that this improves the mental health and decreases suicide of trans individuals. Furthermore, Insupport athletes participating in sports that align with their trans gender.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: TIMOTHY FABER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 8:55 PM

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The original law in question – that had this sunset clause in it – was passed by the Missouri Legislature in 2023.

In the past three years there have been many news reports and even court cases and federal policies regarding women’s sports being protected, and only biological females being allowed to participate in women’s sports.

And ALL of the evidence from these passed three years indicates that the decision to pass this law was the correct one. There has been NO evidence of biological males participating in women’s sports is a good thing – especially for the women and girls who have been – and would again be – disenfranchised if the sunset clause were to remain in effect.

I heartily encourage this committee to vote “do pass” on this legislation.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ABBY ELLISON LAND		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 1:17 PM	
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Testimony In Opposition to Participation in HB 1607 Participation in Athletics Competitions

Representatives of the Missouri House, I am Ellison Land, my pronouns are they/them, and I am here to testify in opposition to HB 1607 Participation in Athletics Competitions.

Have you ever heard the saying, two wrongs don't make a right? The main issue that this bill as written is seeking to remedy is lack of participation and opportunities for women athletes caused by past discrimination on the basis of sex. Yet, your proposal suggests that remediation is only possible if we discriminate on the basis of gender. This bill remarkably does not mention anything about gender, in fact, the bill does not use the word "gender" once. However, the invitation to question a person's biological sex based on their gender expression encourages discrimination against women who do not fit a stereotypical model of "feminine". If the true intention of this bill is to increase participation in women's sports, this course of action only deters women from participating due to unnecessary scrutiny. If this bill would like to increase opportunities for women, perhaps fiscal support would be of interest. According to NCAA data, women's sports are funded at half the rate of men's sports and leadership between both men's and women's teams remains largely male dominated.

The real intention behind this bill is to keep trans folk out of sports. Creating opportunities for some should not come at the expense of others. Participation in athletics should be expanded rather than restricted, and though this bill proposes to support that, its language and implementation proves to be detrimental.

Citation:

NCAA Demographics Database. (2018, December 13). NCAA.org.
<https://www.ncaa.org/sports/2018/12/13/ncaa-demographics-database.aspx>



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ALLISON HILLMAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/17/2026 4:53 PM
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I oppose restricting transgender students from participating in the sport of their chosen gender.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ALYSSA PATEL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 2:59 PM	
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As a therapist I oppose all of these.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: AMANDA EHLL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 10:47 PM
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I urge the committee to oppose this bill. Stop scapegoating young transgender people to avoid dealing with real issues Missourians face. If transgender youth in sports bothers you so much, then find a way for them to play that doesn't alienate them. Forbidding them to play on the teams that align with their gender identity is alienating them. This is wasting legislative time for what was only 5 students back in 2021-2022 school season.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: AMANDA MICHEL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 12:48 PM	
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Please stop passing laws that harm the already vulnerable LGBTQ youth in our state. Leave matters about sports participation to athletic organizations who know their subject matter. This type of law bullies a tiny number of people and results in nothing positive. Laws like this also lead to violations of the privacy of all athletes as it encourages people to police the gender of athletes and demand "proof." That has already happened in states imposing similar bans.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: AMY EASTERLING		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 7:48 AM

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I would like to strongly encourage our legislatures to leave transgender children and their families alone. For a party who claims to value parental rights, you seem to have no problem interfering in the rights of these family to make private healthcare decisions for their children.

In the time that the ban on Gender Affirming Care for minors has been in place, families have been driven away from Missouri and children have suffered. I would urge you to let this cruel policy expire and to focus on the real issues impacting Missourians - our infrastructure, our schools, and affordable living.

Regarding the sports bans on transgender kids, I would also urge you to let those bills expire. As we all know, that ban was performative theater when there were LESS THAN FIVE transgender kids in Missouri participating in sports at all levels.

PLEASE - focus your attention on real issues and leave these families in peace.



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: AMY HAMMERMAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN ST. LOUIS		TITLE: STATE POLICY ADVOCATE
ADDRESS: 311 N. LINDBERGH BLVD.		
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63141
EMAIL: akuo.hammerman@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 3:29 PM

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My name is Amy Kuo Hammerman and I am the Missouri State Policy Advocate for National Council of Jewish Women, based in St. Louis (NCJWSTL). NCJWSTL is a non-profit organization in metropolitan St. Louis, representing over 5,000 members and supporters throughout the state. We focus our work on community service, advocacy, education and philanthropy to improve the quality of life for women, children and families while supporting individual and civil rights, and have been doing so since 1895. This bill would eliminate the August 2027 sunset provision on a bill that already deprives trans children and youth from full participation in education. There has been no change in the research or new data concerning the effect of trans children in youth sports. This body agreed on the sunset provision because of the complexities and concerns about trans student athletes and wisely decided not to make a bad decision permanent. This bill demonstrates government overreach that is not only dangerous, but also cruel.

We urge you to vote no.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: AMY PIERDEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 2:45 PM
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By insisting on anatomical proof in the absence of paperwork, you are suggesting physical examinations of children for sex characteristics, which is highly inappropriate. Let the children play sports according to the gender they state.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ANNA CHISOLM		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 9:36 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am writing **IN OPPOSITION** to this law as a former high school and Division I athlete and current professional high school softball coach.

Any law that isolates a group of people from the same access as everyone else is wrong. I have experience coaching both boys' and girls' sports at the high school level. We are also educators responsible not only for teaching the sport's skills but also for the valuable lessons that come with individual and communal competition. We teach them how to deal with loss and challenges. We teach these kids how to work with others to achieve a common goal, which helps them become functional members of a community. There is no scientific evidence that proves trans athletes are more skilled than their hetero or gay peers.

We should all have the opportunity to train and compete with our peers. Assuming that all trans athletes would inherently perform better than female competitors or take opportunities away from them is damaging. It reduces at best and insults at worst, the efforts generations of women have put in to carve out progress and survive in this patriarchal society. Enforcing this law does not benefit the growth of girls' sports. Female athletes face greater challenges, such as a lack of sports programs. Many high schools now have only varsity programs because there is insufficient participation to field a junior varsity team. Ultimately, if a transgender athlete wants to participate with their peers, they should have the right to; by not allowing them to participate, you are taking away the opportunity from other kids to play the sport they love.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANTHONY DAO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2026 2:52 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

My name is Anthony Dao, and I am a hospitalist practicing in Missouri. I respectfully submit this testimony in opposition to HB 1663, HB 1607, and HB 1973, which would permanently codify restrictions on the participation of transgender students in school athletic competitions. While I am neither a parent nor a student, I do have a commitment to advocating for the effective use of legislative time and resources, both of which are poorly utilized on this issue.

1. Prior to this law, there were an estimated 5 trans athletes in high school. If trans youth were allowed to participate, this number would remain immensely small.
2. Legislators have urgent priorities that have broad impact on Missourians. I'll share the ones that I encounter daily while practicing in a hospital in St Louis:
 - Healthcare shortage – MO has the fourth largest healthcare professional shortage in the nation – this is federal data through HRSA.gov. We need more healthcare professionals to serve our aging and increasingly sick population
 - Substance use disorders – actually also seen in LGBTQIA+ populations, this is seen in literally every walk of life – SUDs spare no one and you can imagine the effects are worse if you're poor and homeless. We need more programs that support the total treatment of these people, from housing, food security, mental health, medical insurance. People who inject drugs are at risk of all sorts of costly and morbid treatments, things like bacteremia and other infectious that require procedural or surgical intervention which can lead to permanent disability that will eventually be paid for by the state. SUDs ruin families and friendships.
 - Access and affordability – I have insurance and the price of my medications are going up, even without changes to my actual healthcare plan. Healthcare is so expensive, even for me, and so imagine being on multiple medications that you can't afford. ... you just don't take the medicine
 - Food deserts – our social workers spend a huge amount of time discussing food shelters and pantries with our patients – one patient told me they can't afford to get to them because they can't afford the bus ticket to get there.
 - need in medical services. For our elderly population, guidelines have changed that weight training is more effective, and that to meaningfully return back to an independent life, they need physical rehabilitation. Instead, Missouri Medicaid pays only for long term care without physical therapy – if we want patients to move back home where they can be more productive, then Missouri should pay for physical therapy services. Additionally, so many people on Medicaid are working blue collar jobs where they're likely to get an injury – rather than just not treating their ailments, we should find out ways of how to make physical therapy affordable to the people who need them.

These are just the problems I face as a hospitalist trying to care for my patients. According to the Missouri's Department of Health, 943,000 patients are affected by SUDs. According to the USDA, 15.4% of Missourians are food insecure, or 961,000 people. Missouri Medicaid serves 2/3s of nursing home

care in the state, but would otherwise pay for community services to keep them home and independent.

Where are these policies or bills that are being talked about in the healthcare committee? Why are we devoting such precious time and resources to 5 students when literally millions of Missourians need care?

I conclude that I am in opposition to the bills.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ASHLEY ARNETT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 1:33 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ASHLEY JAWORSKI		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 6:02 PM
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I am a Missouri citizen and parent to 3 children. I have a student at parkway west high school. He and his classmates are very supportive of transgender students participating in sports. Banning transgender youth from participating in sports is actively harmful.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ASHLEY KUYKENDALL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 1:52 PM
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Gender and social transition are deeply personal decisions that should be left to families and their support systems, including medical providers. The government should not be involved. Stop trying to legislative trans lives and let these kids learn and grow exactly as they should. As a Missourian and a social worker, I do not support any legislative agenda that seeks to restrict the ways gender diverse kids can move through the world on the basis of their gender identity or expression. That is discrimination, plain and simple.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BECKY CUMLEY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 10:25 PM	
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I oppose.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BRITTANY KIEFER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/17/2026 7:29 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

My name is Brittany Kiefer. I am a resident of St Louis City and I do not support anti-trans laws banning access to healthcare for trans youth and laws that restrict the ability for trans kids to play sports.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CAMMIE STORM		PHONE NUMBER: 417-280-6473	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: JUST ANOTHER HUMAN		TITLE: FOUNDER	
ADDRESS: 2707 COUNTY ROAD 4000			
CITY: WEST PLAINS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65775
EMAIL: camlnichols75@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2026 12:23 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

**Written Testimony in Opposition to HB 1973
 Participation in Athletics Competitions
 To the Committee:**

My name is Cammie Storm. I am a resident of the state of Missouri, a transgender woman, and a community advocate with Just Another Human. I submit this written testimony in opposition to HB 1973.

HB 1973 is built on a deeply flawed understanding of biology, athletics, and child development. It substitutes political ideology for medical and professional expertise, while claiming to protect fairness without evidence that a real problem exists.

The bill relies on an outdated, oversimplified definition of sex that does not reflect modern medical understanding. Athletic performance is not determined by a single factor at birth. It is influenced by training, development, hormone levels over time, access to resources, and individual variation. Medical professionals understand this. HB 1973 ignores it.

The bill also presumes permanent and universal athletic advantage by transgender students, a claim that is not supported by scientific evidence or Missouri-specific data. Rather than addressing documented harm, the bill legislates fear.

HB 1973 further overrides existing athletic governance systems that already manage eligibility in sport-specific, evidence-based ways. In doing so, it dismisses the expertise of coaches, athletic trainers, physicians, and school administrators.

The enforcement consequences of this bill are especially concerning. By failing to define clear procedures, it invites scrutiny of children’s bodies, accusations based on appearance, and violations of student privacy. These harms will not be limited to transgender students.

Finally, HB 1973 removes access to school sports—a well-documented protective factor for mental health—from a population already at elevated risk. Medical and mental-health professionals have warned that exclusion increases anxiety, depression, and suicide risk among transgender youth. HB 1973 does not protect students.

It isolates them.

It does not preserve fairness.

It undermines dignity.

Public policy should be evidence-based, narrowly tailored, and grounded in reality. HB 1973 is none of these.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to reject HB 1973.

**Respectfully submitted,
 Cammie Storm**

Just Another Human



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CAMMIE STORM		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CATHERINE KOPP		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 7:37 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

For young people, sports are a way to be a part of something. They teach the importance of fair play, teamwork, and socialization. For a trans person, sports are a way of connection with their classmates and community. They are part of a team and valued for their contributions. To exclude them from participating in a sport they love is cruel and just furthers the isolation that already may be part of their daily lives. I encourage the legislators here to think about how it felt when you played on a team as a kid and how it would feel to have that denied to you for who you were. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CHRISTY GLAUBER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 3:01 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CYDNEY MCKINNIE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 6:53 AM
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I do not support this bill. It will harm transgender individuals. Please do not vote for this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CYNTHIA MCDANNOLD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 3:53 PM
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Modern science tells us that gender is not as simple as XX or XY. Also, you cannot rely on hormone tests to determine gender. The tests used are based on a range and can vary for a variety of reasons. Testing for gender is not reliable and not needed. Let children play sports without this ridiculous rule.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DAKOTA D JONES		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/17/2026 10:04 PM	

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This legislative body has already addressed this question repeatedly in multiple bills in multiple sessions that essentially make the same point. To make the same point multiple years in a row again may strengthen the point in some minds but clouds the important issues that Missourians are grappling with. The insertion of this provision permanently denies flexibility to schools and fails to consider the actual individual needs of the students affected by this policy. In matters of governance, wisdom must be demonstrated in listening, in adjusting courses, in responding. This provision denies leeway for consideration in favor of dogged adherence to a point that allows no consideration be given. Let us find solutions that treat the question of fairness in athletic competition with consideration for the human reality with which this decision confronts us.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DANI JACKSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 3:38 PM	
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Bills that restrict transgender student athlete from participating in sports consistent with their gender identity are harmful, discriminatory, and are in blatant opposition to the fundamental purpose of school athletics: fostering teamwork, belonging, and physical health/education. Get over yourselves and do what's best for every child.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DANIEL JAMES MCKINNIE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 1:08 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DANIELLE MEERT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 6:54 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: DAVA-LEIGH BRUSH		PHONE NUMBER: 314-600-6018	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI EQUITY EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP		TITLE: PAL TEAM LEAD	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 1352			
CITY: ST. CHARLES		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63302
EMAIL: dlb@missouriequity.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 5:40 PM	

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MOEEP steadfastly opposes any bills targeting any marginalized communities and populations in Missouri and this bill does just that. We understand the importance and power of athletic competitions and activities in the lives of youth whether at a “fun” or elite level. They bring confidence, foster leadership, forge friendships, and keep youth active. As an educator, I spent 14 years keeping the basketball book for junior high/intramural games where there were players of all abilities. I saw uncoordinated kids find their stride, shy kids find their confidence, good kids humility, and everyone learn to win like a champ and lose like a champ. As a parent, I held a bronze coaching card for youth wrestling for several years as the statistician and bullpen wrangler for two different teams, and saw wrestlers—boys and girls because girls’ wrestling was just starting to take hold—learn persistence, perseverance, and a camaraderie that lasts to this day. MOEEP firmly believes in inclusivity for all, and that every single young person in Missouri should be afforded these same benefits should they want them. Full stop.

We opposed the ban when it was brought up in 2023 because MSHSAA and sports’ governing bodies have procedures in place that would address the incredibly low numbers of students directly impacted. However, it passed with a sunset to give time to collect data on whether this issue is significant enough to even address. In other words, is this even a problem in the first place? Where does that data collection stand? What have you learned? The sunset was negotiated in good faith and agreed upon, and removing it now undermines the integrity of members of the legislature to stand by their collective word. Our charge at MOEEP is to be a voice for Missouri youth that might not be able to speak for themselves in trying to have a safe, inclusive, welcoming environment in their home state. For these reasons, we oppose this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DAVA-LEIGH BRUSH		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 8:55 PM	

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I am opposed to ending the sunset. I am opposed to the bill itself to be fair. By trying to remove the sunset, it tells me the Missouri legislature cannot be trusted. How can we believe anything you say? You will put something in to make it less evil or more palatable to get it passed then as soon as you can, you say, "Just kidding!" and try to remove it. This is another shard in the broken trust of Missourians. You overturn initiative petitions, you waste money fighting what voters have TOLD you we want--since at least 2018. So what is a little bit more duplicitousness in getting things passed. As the parent of an athlete, I have seen first hand the benefits of youth sports at every level. He played co-ed Tball and soccer. Wrestling, when he did it--13 years on the mat--was just starting to see girls' teams so that was co-ed too. Allie Howk of Blue Springs took 3rd in State Class 4 HS wrestling beating all but one boy in the bracket. There is not a huge "problem" out there with transgender women in sports. The ONE instance everyone holds up as the gold standard is Lia Thompson and it's perpetuated by Riley Gaines, but here's the hard truth about that: Lia and Riley tied for fifth place. FIFTH. This means they were BOTH beaten by four cisgendered women, what the GOP call "biological" women. This is not a problem we should even be addressing. We have REAL actual problems in Missouri. If you want to protect women, maybe reduce the infant/maternal mortality rates in the Black community. Maybe help grow actual healthcare in rural communities. Maybe protect them from actual child predators like the pastors who groom them instead of scapegoating marginalized communities.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DEBORAH REINHARDT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 4:58 PM	

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Well, here we are again. Missouri's Republican representatives are resuming their crusade against trans athletes. The turnover rate for our teachers in Missouri (14.6%) is double the national average (not surprising as we're at the bottom of the national pay scale for public educators), but we're here arguing about trans students playing sports. Despite the fact that a national study by the Women's Sports Foundation found transgender women and girls are not a challenge to women's sports. The real challenges include harassment by coaches, disparity in funding and facilities. Despite hours of testimony heard by this very committee in the last three years from trans student athletes, this gross government overreach continues, wasting my tax money that pays your salaries. Why our Republican representatives continue down this road when their time and expertise could be used in other areas like education, job creation, cost of living, and healthcare for all remains a mystery to me and to so many other Missourians. Vote NO on HB 1973 and let's get down to the real business at hand. Let trans athletes play.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DEREK W THOMAS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 3:12 PM
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I do not understand why our legislators feel it is so important to regulate people as to their idea of themselves, their ideal selves, who they love, etc. This makes as much sense as legislating that everyone must paint every room in their house white. Some people have gray rooms and purple rooms and red rooms and whatever color they want rooms. And yet our legislators think it's a great idea to force everyone to have white rooms. If you don't like red or purple or yellow rooms, don't go there. If brown rooms drive you crazy, just don't go in them. Please stop pandering to your so-called "values" - Christian or otherwise - and to your "white paint for all" voters. Please DO start legislating things we really need. May I suggest healthcare? Or education? Or the abysmal state of our highways and bridges. Just to name a few. You claim to want an America where freedom reigns. As long as it's freedom YOU want, not for anyone else. Please. Just stop. It is none of your business who I love, or who the person next to you loves. Or how they choose to live. Or choose the color of their rainbow. Just stop.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: DIANE MEEKER		PHONE NUMBER: 573-234-0342	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN--MISSOURI; NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN--COLUMBIA AREA		TITLE: PRESIDENT	
ADDRESS: 203 BREWER DRIVE			
CITY: COLUMBIA		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65201
EMAIL: columbiamonow@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 10:15 PM	
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The Missouri state chapter and the Columbia Area local chapter of the National Organization for Women stand opposed to any and all attempts to discriminate against trans folk and non-binary individuals in the name of gender conformity, when scientific research indicates that biological sex in humans is more complex than a strict binary division. Additionally, anti-trans legislation contributes to the harassment of cisgender girls and women whenever their outward appearance does not conform to random strangers' definition of "feminine." We urge the committee to OPPOSE this bill.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DON CROZIER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2026 8:53 PM
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Trans kids should be allowed to play sports. These types of bills are harmful and the ban should be allowed to expire.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ELAINE BRUNE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 12:00 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ELLIE BLEDSOE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 9:43 PM	

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I oppose House Bills 1973, 2431, 1879, 2730, 1853, 2401, and 3633, which collectively seek to make permanent the state's restrictions on transgender youth by removing critical sunset provisions that were deliberately included in 2023 legislation. These bills represent a dangerous legislative intrusion into the practice of medicine and directly contradict established medical consensus.

The Sunset Provisions Exist for Good Reason

When the legislature passed SB 49 in 2023, it included both a grandfather clause and a sunset provision set for August 28, 2027. These provisions were not accidental—they were legislatively agreed upon to ensure that care for minors already in treatment was not disrupted and to provide the legislature additional time to analyze the efficacy of these restrictions. Rather than allowing this deliberate review period to occur, these bills would prematurely eliminate that safeguard and make these restrictions permanent without the careful analysis that was promised.

Medical Consensus Opposes These Restrictions

Gender-affirming care for patients under age 18 is considered best medical practice by major medical organizations—including the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), American Medical Association (AMA), and American Psychiatric Association. There is consensus in the medical community that gender-affirming care is medically necessary, safe, effective, and lifesaving.

The American Medical Association has called this type of legislation "dangerous legislative intrusion into the practice of medicine," emphasizing that it is "imperative that transgender minors be given the opportunity to explore their gender identity under the safe and supportive care of a physician." The American Psychiatric Association "opposes all legislative and other governmental attempts to limit access to [mental health support and gender-affirming care services] for trans and gender diverse youth, or to sanction or criminalize the actions of physicians and other clinicians who provide them."

Gender-Affirming Care Saves Lives

For youth under the age of 18, gender-affirming care consists mostly of access to mental health care, as well as puberty blockers and hormone treatments—both of which are reversible. The AAP has found evidence that denying gender-affirming care may rise to the level of medical neglect and emotional abuse, as denial of gender-affirming care has the potential to lead to physical and psychological harm and undermines a child's self-worth and psychological development.

Denial of gender-affirming care has been shown to contribute to depression, social isolation, self-hatred, risk of self-harm, and suicidal ideation and behavior. Transgender youth are more likely to feel depressed and anxious, harm themselves, or attempt suicide. Transgender and nonbinary youth are 2-2.5 times as likely to experience depressive symptoms, seriously consider suicide, and attempt suicide than their cisgender LGBTQ+ peers.

Conversely, access to gender-affirming care—particularly puberty blockers—has been shown to decrease the likelihood of suicide and depression among transgender and nonbinary youth.

Individuals who are accepted and supported in their gender identity show better mental health and quality of life outcomes.

These Bills Will Worsen Missouri's Physician Shortage Crisis

Missouri already faces a severe physician shortage. In Missouri, physician supply lags behind patient demand, ranking in the bottom half of states for primary care and physician availability. In fact, 111 of Missouri's 114 counties are health professional deserts, which have 3,500 or more patients for every one provider. By 2030, Missouri is projected to be short 3,102 doctors.

Legislation that restricts physicians' ability to provide evidence-based care only exacerbates this crisis. An Association of American Medical Colleges survey showed that OB-GYN residencies dropped by 10% in states with abortion bans and 6% in states with abortion restrictions, with an overall drop of 1% in all specialties in states with abortion bans. A separate survey conducted by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of third and fourth year medical students found that three quarters said that restrictive healthcare laws would influence where they would apply for residency and half said such laws would influence which specialty they would apply to.

The same pattern applies to restrictions on gender-affirming care. Current and would-be physicians recognize that these are necessary, potentially lifesaving procedures, and are not interested in practicing in states that restrict their abilities to provide necessary medical care. These bills will further deter people from learning how to be physicians and practicing medicine in Missouri.

The Documented Harm to LGBTQ+ Youth

Anti-LGBTQ+ and anti-trans legislation has been shown to have detrimental impacts to the mental health of these communities. According to a recent study by the Trevor Project, nine out of ten (90%) LGBTQ+ young people reported that recent politics negatively impacted their well-being, with transgender and nonbinary young people reporting an even greater degree of negative impacts (94%), and nearly two out of five LGBTQ+ youth and their families reported considering moving to a different state.

These bills—which would make these restrictions permanent rather than allowing for the promised review period—will only intensify the harm to Missouri's transgender youth and their families.

Sports Participation Bills Solve a Non-Existent Problem

The sports ban bills (HB 1973, HB 2431, HB 1879) purport to protect fairness in athletics, yet they target an extraordinarily small population of students and create barriers based on fear rather than evidence. These bills force schools and institutions to police students' bodies and birth certificates, creating an invasive and discriminatory environment for all students.

Notably, major athletic organizations including the NCAA, Olympics, and various state athletic associations have developed inclusive policies that balance fairness and inclusion. These bills override local decision-making and force a one-size-fits-all approach that disregards the individual circumstances of student athletes.

Conclusion

The 2023 legislation included sunset provisions for a reason: to allow time for careful review and analysis. These bills would eliminate that promised review period and make permanent restrictions that contradict medical consensus, worsen Missouri's physician shortage, harm LGBTQ+ youth mental health, and intrude on the patient-provider relationship.

For these reasons, I firmly urge the committee to oppose House Bills 1973, 2431, 1879, 2730, 1853, 2401, and 3633.

Citations

American Medical Association, AMA to states: Stop interfering in health care of transgender children (April 26, 2021), <https://www.ama-assn.org/press-center/pressreleases/ama-states-stop-interfering-health-care-transgender-children>

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Emily Georges, MD, Prohibition of Gender-Affirming Care as a Form of Child Maltreatment: Reframing the Discussion, American Academy of Pediatrics Publications (Dec. 20, 2023), <https://publications.aap.org/pediatrics/article/153/1/e2023064292/196236/Prohibition-of-GenderAffirming-Care-as-a-Form-of>

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Cherie Moody, "Without This, I Would for Sure Already Be Dead": A Qualitative Inquiry Regarding Suicide Protective Factors Among Trans Adults, American Psychologic Association (2015), <https://psycnet.apa.org/fulltext/2015-39781-006.html>

Cicero Institute, Missouri Physician Shortage Facts (February 27, 2024), <https://ciceroinstitute.org/research/missouri-physician-shortage-facts/>

Addison Hudgins, Physician Shortages in States with Abortion Laws, Health eCareers (June 12, 2023), <https://www.healthcareers.com/careerresources/industry-news/physician-shortages-in-states-with-abortion-laws>

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American Medical Association, March 26, 2021: State Advocacy Update (March 26, 2021), <https://www.ama-assn.org/health-careadvocacy/advocacy-update/march-26-2021-state-advocacy-update>



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ELYSE SCHAEFFER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 9:30 PM	
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Trans rights are human rights. Vote no.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: EMILIA STAUFFER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 11:50 AM
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Esteemed members of the Emerging Issues Committee,

My name is Emilia Stauffer. I am a resident of Springfield, MO. I am testifying in opposition to HB 1973. The Transgender community has been under constant attack by the Republican party for several years now. Despite repeated efforts to convince this party to let up on these attacks, here we are again.

Trans people exist. The only debate that exists is how and when the Republican party will limit or eliminate the resources that support the trans community including access to sports opportunities. The actions of this committee and the party who is sponsoring these bills are harming real people. I speak with these people every day.

If you have any conscience, stop harming us by continually targeting the resources we need to not only survive, but thrive. Vote no on this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: EMILY ANNE EVANS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 10:05 PM	

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As a former athlete and a current high school girls' basketball coach, I know one thing to be certain - athletics foster a sense of belonging to something greater than oneself. Athletics provide a safe environment for learning teamwork, leadership skills, and overcoming adversity. To strip these opportunities away from someone based on their gender affirming identity negates what athletics is all about – inclusion.

As a high school coach, I firmly believe excluding individuals who want to participate in athletics based on their gender affirming identity perpetuates the stereotypes of who should play sports and what an athlete should look like. Anyone who has participated in or coached athletics knows that at the heart of athletics, appearances do not matter. Socioeconomic classes do not matter. Religious beliefs do not matter. What matters is the team, we not I. What matters is culture, building a community in which athletes can thrive. What matters is acceptance, a space that creates equal opportunities for everyone to succeed as their authentic self. So why does an individual's gender affirming identity matter? Would one have an issue with a transgender male playing on the boys' high school team? Or is it just an issue when a transgender woman plays on the girls' team?

As a girls' high school coach, I have seen the value that athletics brings to youths, specifically for young girls. The value transcends the sport; it transcends the norm that athletics are only for specific individuals. It creates a space for individuals where, for a few hours each day, one need not worry about anything but the sport. It provides relief to those who need it, physically and mentally. It instills confidence, something youths already grapple with, through encouragement, hard work, and self-discipline. Confidence that sticks throughout life. To keep the current ban on transgender kids playing sports transposes all the positive impacts athletics can have on individuals.

My question is: Why does the government care about controlling inclusion in sports, especially for youths and young adults? If this ban is an actual, honest attempt to support girls' athletics, or athletics in general, the decision would be based on a case-by-case basis, not on a blanket state-level basis. A ban at the state level confirms the government would rather control identities than protect youths in sports. Particularly since transgender girls and boys are underrepresented in sports and life, every situation should be based on the unique situation. Not one that was decided before the athlete had an opportunity.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: EMILY ELHOFFER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 2:52 PM	
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To the Members of the Committee:

My name is Emily Elhoffer, and I am writing in opposition to HB 1672, HB 1608, HB 1854, HB 2033, HB 1663, HB 1607, and HB 1973.

These bills target transgender and gender-diverse Missourians by restricting access to medically necessary healthcare and by excluding students from full participation in school athletics. I oppose these bills because they will cause real harm to children and families, undermine the integrity of medical decision-making, and erode the fundamental principle that all people deserve dignity, safety, and equal treatment under the law.

Gender-Affirming Healthcare Bills (HB 1672, HB 1608, HB 1854, HB 2033)

These bills interfere in private medical decisions that should remain between patients, families, and licensed healthcare providers. Gender-affirming care is supported by major medical organizations, including pediatric and mental health associations, and is widely recognized as evidence-based, individualized, and often life-saving care.

By criminalizing or restricting this care, the state would be substituting political ideology for medical expertise. This sets a dangerous precedent that affects not only transgender youth, but any patient whose care becomes politically controversial. Families deserve the freedom to make informed decisions in consultation with professionals—not lawmakers.

The consequences of denying gender-affirming care are well-documented: increased rates of anxiety, depression, and suicide risk among transgender youth. These bills do not protect children; they place them in harm's way.

Athletics Participation Bills (HB 1663, HB 1607, HB 1973)

These bills exclude transgender students from participating in school sports, denying them the social, physical, and emotional benefits of athletic participation. School athletics are not only about competition—they are about teamwork, belonging, confidence, and connection.

There is no credible evidence that blanket bans improve fairness or safety. Instead, these bills single out a small, vulnerable group of students and subject them to surveillance, stigma, and exclusion.

Policies that force schools to police students' bodies or identities are invasive and damaging, particularly for young people who are simply trying to learn and belong.

Broader Harm to Schools, Families, and Communities

Taken together, these bills send a message that transgender people are problems to be controlled rather than members of our communities to be supported. They will drive families and healthcare providers out of the state, place schools in impossible enforcement roles, and expose the state to costly legal challenges.

Most importantly, they tell transgender children that they are not welcome as they are.

Conclusion

I urge you to oppose these bills and instead focus on policies that support the health, safety, and well-being of all children. Our state should be guided by compassion, evidence, and respect for personal freedom—not fear or misinformation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

**Respectfully,
Emily Elhoffer**



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: EMILY MILNER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 12:23 PM
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This bill is discriminatory and not rooted in real world understanding of sex or gender. In addition to discriminating against transgender people, it also assumes that people born intersex do not exist.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: EMILY SEIPLE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 7:28 PM
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ERIN HILL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 6:54 PM
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I oppose this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: GABBY EISSNER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 10:57 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GERALYN MADIGAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 10:07 AM
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I oppose all bills limiting the rights of transgender persons. Doctors and patients, and parents if that patient is a minor, should be involved in making medical decisions, not the government. Transgender persons have as much right to participate in sports as any other person. These proposed laws only serve to marginalize & discriminate against transgender youth.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: HANNAH CAPPONI		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 8:26 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: HANNAH LENON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 4:28 PM	
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Bigotry is not a winning issues. Discrimination is not ethical.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: HEATHER HUGHES		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2026 8:00 PM
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The state has no place in making health care decisions for families. The state has no place in deciding who can and cannot play sports. Schools and sporting organizations for the most part have procedures and policies in place to make things safe and fair for all kids. Similarly hospitals, Dr's, and medical organizations have their own best practices in place.

Please stop fighting culture wars and tackle actual problems like affordable housing and healthcare!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: HOWARD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 8:13 PM	
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Let Trans kids play with their peers. I've watched being accepted by one's gender peer group completely change life trajectories for the better.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JACQUELYN BROWN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 4:28 PM
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I am extremely disappointed and upset that we are wasting time and money on nonsense culture war issues that distract from the real problems Missourians face. The government ought to stay out of the private lives of citizens. Vote against this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JAKE HECKENBACH		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 4:41 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JAMES THUROW		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 7:02 PM

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.
Government overreach and republican hypocrisy**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JAMIE KALEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2026 8:54 AM
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The expiration on this bill should not be removed, and I oppose restricting students' participation in sports based on their sex or assigned gender at birth.

They're minors, children. The fact that intersex students are also penalized under this and forced to fit into a category in order to compete should make you feel appalled. From a transgender student's perspective, this is a rejection of their participation in a sport at all. Success in a sport requires more than what sex you were born as, and categorizing a transgender female student as a male would not even be an equal playing field in all cases.

Sports in school exist for the students' well-being and health, and as this applies to public institutions, the government should not mandate that a transgender student compete in the category that matches their birth certificate. As minors, schools exist to cultivate their spirit, get them to work hard, and give them a sense of accomplishment, as well as get them to cooperate with their peers. This bill is in the opposite spirit of that goal.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JEANETTE MOTT OXFORD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2026 6:20 PM	

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I oppose all of the bills being heard in the House Emerging Issues Committee on January 20, 2026. People far more knowledgeable than I am will be in the room to help you understand what is wrong with these bills from a medical, psychological, and moral standpoint. I am writing in solidarity with those experts and with the courageous transgender persons, especially young people, who will come to speak to you directly (as well as their parents and other family members).

There is much that I did not know about gender when I was young. The assumption for all babies is that they were obviously “a boy” or “a girl” and that this label would determine a lot about what they could and could not do. As an adult, I have discovered gender is much more complicated than that. I have friends whose children were born with “ambiguous genitalia.” It’s far more common than you’d think. I also learned that many of the things that I was taught I could not do based on the way my body is structured were just sexist oppression.

I am blessed to have a pediatric endocrinologist as my nephew, a brilliant young man. He has helped me understand quite a bit about his young transgender patients. He is trying to follow the evidence of medical research in how he cares for them, and what science shows should not trampled by “culture wars.”

It is always a mistake for elected bodies to get between individuals and families and their medical care providers. I ask this committee to vote no on all these bills and to show compassion and kindness to your transgender neighbors, their families, and their friends.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JEFF DEWALD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 11:09 PM

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Bans are not the answer. Let the sporting authorities determine fair and safe guidelines to allow trans people to participate in sports.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JENNIFER HARPER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 8:53 PM	
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I find it very disingenuous that you were able to pass the original bills because of the sunset but now without waiting for further research you are wanting to remove the sunset. These anti-trans bills are very damaging to LGBTQIA+ youth, but apparently you don't care because parents tell you that every year yet you never listen.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JENNIFER HARRIS DAULT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 6:11 PM	
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Rep Fuchs mentioned all those who have left the state to the tune of 1 billion dollars. I write as one who left in 2023, after you passed this hateful legislation. My family of four, who planned to remain in Missouri for the rest of our lives, left because of this body's actions. My community is now spread across the world. Stop this. You continue to peddle lies about healthcare, lies about us, lies about our children. You have heard the truth, but you continue -- even in this very hearing -- to repeat nonsense that you KNOW are lies (suggesting 5 year olds are receiving surgeries? The only medical gender-affirming care 5-year-old trans kids are receiving is therapy).
Stop.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JENNIFER MAIN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2026 7:26 PM	
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JENNIFER PEPPER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 12:00 AM	
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JESSICA CUNDIFF		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 4:46 PM	
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I am a PhD-level social scientist with expertise in the psychology of gender. There is a no consistent evidence demonstrating that transgender people have an athletic advantage. Testosterone is often thought to cause athletic advantage, but the research evidence is mixed, and testosterone is only one part of a person's physiology, and bodies vary in how they make and respond to the hormone. Any perceived advantages of transgender people (based on ambiguous and indirect evidence) may be no greater than widely accepted physiological (e.g., large hands) and financial (e.g., training opportunities) advantages that some cisgender people have in competitive sports. For example, having large hands is key for manipulation in some sports (e.g., basketball), but this is not seen as an unfair advantage. If politicians truly care about making sports "fair", they should consider implementing skill and size categories, rather than categories based on biological sex.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JOHN SMITH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 11:15 AM

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This bill could kill trans kids. Trans kids are far more likely to commit suicide than cis kids even without the pressure of their government being against them. Please, listen to the kids who need this.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JOHNDA BOYCE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 6:24 PM

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Not needed in Missouri. These harm trans kids, and are against the evidence for both sports and healthcare. Stop attacking trans kids and attack Missouri's real problems.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JOSH PARSHALL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2026 9:19 AM
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This bill does not address an actual problem in our state. Trans children represent a tiny minority, and they should be allowed the same experiences as other kids. No child or family is going through the difficult and socially stigmatized process of social or medical transition in order to gain an advantage in youth sports. Please focus on issues that actually affect the lives of Missourians: housing costs, healthcare access, and the availability of high quality childcare.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JULIA STINSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2026 9:43 PM
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Transgender and intersex youth are equal before the law and should be given every opportunity to have the full experience every other child in Missouri can have, including participation in group sports, where children learn teamwork, collaboration, and the value of competition. To deprive them of that is an unwarranted attack not based in science or care but in bigotry and mean spirited partisan politics.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JULIE M HESS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 11:21 AM
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I choose to defend the expiration dates (sunsets) on the anti-trans laws banning access to healthcare for trans young people and the ability for trans kids to play sports.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KATE BROOKS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2026 3:38 PM
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Banning gender-affirming care does nothing to protect the health and well being of Missouri's youth. Everybody's health care needs are different, and health care decisions should be left between young patients, their families, and their physicians, without interference from politicians. Missourians deserve more access to health care, not less, and these bills stand in the way of essential, life saving health care.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KATHARINE STARNES		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 3:04 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KATHERINE FEINER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 9:21 PM	
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The sunset on this bill was put in place for a reason. Going back on that reason would be an overreach for the legislature and display a lack of willingness to evaluate information collected over time. I oppose this bill and its sibling bills and urge the committee to keep it in its proper place--off the House floor until the agreed upon year.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KATIE HEIDEN-ROOTES		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 10:25 AM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Chairperson and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dr. Katie Heiden-Rootes, and I am a licensed marital and family therapist with over 11? years of experience providing mental health care to children, adolescents, and families in Missouri. My clinical work includes supporting youth navigating identity, peer relationships, stress, family conflicts, and mental health challenges inherent in adolescence. I submit this testimony in opposition to HB? 1973.

HB?1973 proposes to modify participation guidelines for school athletics so that students would compete only in contests designated by biological sex as stated on official birth records and would eliminate the existing sunset on these restrictions. Current law enforcing similar participation rules is set to expire in August?2027.

As a mental health professional, my concern is the significant harm restrictive policies cause to the emotional well being and social development of transgender and gender diverse youth.

1. Youth Sports as a Crucial Context for Development

Participation in athletics is widely recognized as beneficial for adolescents' mental health, social integration, self esteem, teamwork skills, and physical well being. Excluding or restricting access to sports on the basis of gender identity deprives vulnerable students of these developmental supports and can intensify feelings of isolation.

2. Psychological Impact of Exclusionary Policies

Research and clinical experience demonstrate that transgender youth already face elevated rates of anxiety, depression, and suicidal ideation compared to their peers. Policies that explicitly exclude them from full participation in school life reinforce stigma, reduce peer support, and increase psychological distress. Exclusion from activities that foster belonging contradicts core principles of trauma informed and developmentally appropriate care. I have seen this first hand with the youth in my practice who experience social anxiety, loneliness, and avoid school due to bullying and exclusionary school policies on bathroom use, use of correct names and pronouns, and teacher affirmation.

3. Lack of Evidence that Inclusive Participation Harms Others

Leading child and adolescent health organizations do not support blanket bans on participation based on gender identity. Inclusive participation policies used in many school districts and collegiate associations have not been shown to cause widespread safety or fairness issues to other athletes. Indeed, making athletics accessible to all students affirms both competitive integrity and psychological

safety. This bill, and others like it, are a bill in search of a problem that does not exist.

4. Ethical Considerations in Supporting All Students

In clinical practice, we uphold ethics that prioritize respect, dignity, and non discrimination. Policies like HB?1973 signal to transgender students that their identities are less valid and their contributions to school communities are less valued. For young people already struggling with marginalization, this can exacerbate distress and impair academic and social functioning.

Conclusion

HB?1973 would institutionalize exclusionary practices that harm the mental health and social participation of transgender and gender diverse youth without clear evidence of benefit. I urge you to oppose HB?1663 and instead support inclusive policies that promote psychological well being, belonging, fairness, and opportunity for all Missouri students.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Katie Heiden-Rootes, PhD, LMFT
Rock Hill, MO 63119



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: KATY ERKER-LYNCH		PHONE NUMBER: 314-862-4900	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: PROMO		TITLE: EXEC. DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 2200 GRAVOIS AVE #201			
CITY: STL		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63104
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 12:00 AM	
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KELLY BUCKLEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 7:32 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

As a Missouri resident, I urge you to oppose legislation that bans transgender individuals from participating in athletics.

These policies place unnecessary and harmful burdens on a small group of young people who already face significant challenges. Decisions about participation are best made by families and athletic organizations, not through broad, one-size-fits-all laws.

Athletics should promote health, teamwork, and belonging. Exclusionary policies undermine those goals and risk deepening division in our communities. I ask you to protect the dignity and well-being of all Missourians.

Thank you



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KIMBERLY HERNANDEZ		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2026 4:04 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KORTNIE HUDDLESTON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 11:33 PM	
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These bills would make the bans on gender-affirming healthcare for trans youth and their participation in school sports permanent, stripping away critical protections and opportunities from young people across our state.

The current law has sunset provisions to allow for further study and real input from impacted families, like mine. Removing these provisions is an extreme move that disregards my belief that medical decisions are each of our individual right and freedom to make with our families and the medical experts who support our care.

We know that all youth, especially transgender youth, deserve the opportunity to play the sports they love, and experience the valuable lessons of being on a team with their peers, including teamwork, discipline, success, and failure. Failing to support transgender student athletes only perpetuates a culture of bias, and instigates an issue that doesn't exist. The lie that transgender youth are taking opportunities away from other youths, when in fact, they are also just boys and girls wanting to play sports and have fun. Transgender women are **WOMEN**. It's simple, and by excluding trans women from sports, you are indicating that they are a hypothetical threat, and ignoring the current documented harm against transgender women and girls. This has real impacts on the lives of human beings.

I believe in fairness and freedom. And I voted for you to represent and uphold those freedoms, not cause undo harm to already marginalized kids. Locking in these bans without insisting on continued research and public input is irresponsible. Do the right thing and stand against this overreach — vote **NO** on all of these bills.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KRISTIN REHG		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 8:04 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KRISTINE FIELDS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 7:51 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

For the mental health of all children, they should be allowed to participate in athletic events according to their true gender identity.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KYLE FREELS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LAURA BURKHARDT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 9:50 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LAURA CROWLEY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 5:44 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Trans people deserve the same rights as everyone else, and decisions about sports participation should be made at the individual level, following the rules of each sports association. This should depend on the age of the participant, and the specific guidelines of each sport. It should not be banned at the state level.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LEAR ROSE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LESLIE ORTBALS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 7:19 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LILIANA TASLER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 2:44 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Children deserve to play sports in an environment they feel welcome in. Biological sex should not be the determining factor of what environment is appropriate.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LINDA KRAM		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/15/2026 8:29 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LISA JELLINEK		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 8:36 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LISA SPAHR		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/17/2026 4:22 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

As the parent of a trans teen, I ask that you oppose this bill. This bill harms my child, our family and our communities. Trans kids have played sports safely and fairly (fair to cisgender kids) for years. The athletic association of the state had firm rules in place, that trans kids complied with in order to play-without issue or incident. Then, the GOP decided to make trans kids a voting issue and those kids came under attack. There was no issue that needed solved. Our kids deserve to play and want to play with their peers- and have done so without political interference for years. Now, they feel stigmatized, ostracized, and are targeted for no reason other than political fodder. Politicians should not be policing this. Rules were in place and worked well before this. Now it's become awful- violent event. Please oppose this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LLANA DAMON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2026 1:35 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

We don't need a state law against trans athletes. There is already a system in place to judge on case by case basis whether the student should be allowed on the team of their transitioning gender or not. There are so few transgender athletes that this bill and all the others like it are just SILLY.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LORI MARIE MARTIN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: MAGGIE EDMONDSON		PHONE NUMBER:
REPRESENTING: ABORTION ACTION MISSOURI		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY: ST. LOUIS	STATE: MO	ZIP: 63110
EMAIL: maggie@abortionactionmissouri.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 6:12 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARIA LINDBERGH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2026 12:44 PM
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I oppose this bill because my children must keep the ability to participate in sports on a team of the gender they identify with.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARY REED		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2026 2:11 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I oppose ALL of these bills and shame on all of you if they are passed! Do something better with your time and actually give your constituents what they want! WE THE PEOPLE



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MELANIE HESSLER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 11:08 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MELINA CONSTANTINE MISEO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2026 3:44 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This is discriminatory and creates unsafe environments for a marginalized youth.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL DREYER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 11:31 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

These bills would make the bans on gender-affirming healthcare for trans youth and their participation in school sports permanent, stripping away critical protections and opportunities from young people across our state.

The current law has sunset provisions to allow for further study and real input from impacted families, like mine. Removing these provisions is an extreme move that disregards my belief that medical decisions are each of our individual right and freedom to make with our families and the medical experts who support our care.

We know that all youth, especially transgender youth, deserve the opportunity to play the sports they love, and experience the valuable lessons of being on a team with their peers, including teamwork, discipline, success, and failure. Failing to support transgender student athletes only perpetuates a culture of bias, and instigates an issue that doesn't exist. The lie that transgender youth are taking opportunities away from other youths, when in fact, they are also just boys and girls wanting to play sports and have fun. Transgender women are **WOMEN**. It's simple, and by excluding trans women from sports, you are indicating that they are a hypothetical threat, and ignoring the current documented harm against transgender women and girls. This has real impacts on the lives of human beings.

I believe in fairness and freedom. And I voted for you to represent and uphold those freedoms, not cause undo harm to already marginalized kids. Locking in these bans without insisting on continued research and public input is irresponsible. Do the right thing and stand against this overreach — vote **NO** on all of these bills.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL WALK		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHELE SILER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 1:56 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Missouri's children should be encouraged to play team sports as they wish, and with teams they identify with. For the minute number of transgender kids who want to play on sports teams, there is no plausible reason to reject them and how they identify. As many Missourians declared "Let Them Play" during the pandemic citing the advantage of a chance to play, and parents rights to choose what IS best for their kids' health, all I can say similarly in regard to Missouri's transgender athletes- " LET THEM PLAY".



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MILLIE WRIGHT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 7:12 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MONICA SHEETS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 6:20 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

These bills are motivated by hate and fear, not science. Removing the sunset provision ties Missouri into an indefensible position that causes real harm to children and families.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: NANCY SACCONI		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 7:56 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I oppose this bill, which I recognize is yet another anti-trans effort that aims to weaken human rights in Missouri.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: NANCY SLUSARSKI		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 2:56 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I oppose HB 1973! Lets be honest here. This preoccupation with transgender athletes is way out of proportion to the reality of the number of transgender students playing sports. It's literally just a hand full of kids wanting to play school sports. Before puberty it's pretty much an even playing field for boys and girls so why even legislate? And once a transgender athlete is on HRT for 6 to 12 months most advantages they may have had when male are no longer there. IE: less muscle mass which means less oxygenation. less strength and slower times. So please stop this nonsense and let all kids play school sports. I absolutely oppose sunset term limitations set in previous bills. Honor your word.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: NICHOLAS TATUM		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 11:31 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

My name is Nicholas Tatum, but you may call me Verity. I am here in opposition to HB 1663, HB 1607 and HB 1973. I find myself increasingly concerned with the aptitude of some legislators these days. It is clear they've never attended a single high school or college football game. Because if they had, they would notice the bands that grace our football stadiums. Bands composed of the entire gender spectrum. If anyone here has ever been a part of one, you will agree that talent and hard work make for a strong band and strong bands win competitions. Marching in various weather conditions, carrying heavy instruments, running onto and off the field, and playing an instrument as if none of these things are happening. Band members change into uniforms together, often en masse, as they lack fieldhouses. They do pushups together when they get things wrong during practice. Every move regimented. Every breath accounted for. During competition, they're all judged at the same time, not for their gender, because that is ludicrous, but for their skill. Why do bands allow all genders to participate? Why do some football teams allow for women to play? Why are women allowed to vote now? Because our society has established that men and women are equally skilled. When I served in the United States military, I knew that I was trans. Being trans doesn't matter on the battlefield. I served in Iraq in 2005. I watched my combat engineer unit push a perfectly capable female soldier out of mobilization, even though she knew what she signed up for and wanted to go to protect her own. One thing these bills will accomplish is the dehumanization of women. They are more than capable of competing on the same fields as men. So are trans men and women, nonbinary people, and intersex individuals. They'll allow a donkey to play basketball these days. I've seen it. I've seen my fair share of likewise animals at the Capital too. Yet, here you remain, harming people different than you for political clout and media relevancy. Try as you might with these bills, I know that the numbers are against you, the population of trans people in Missouri continues to grow, and you cannot stop trans people from fighting for their right to exist in the same spaces as everyone else, whether we have medically transitioned our bodies or not. I protected those around me overseas in a body that was already killing me. I know how resilient trans people are. Perhaps that is the truest flaw of this legislation, it wrongly attributes trans strength to trans bodies, when it was found within our spirit all along.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: NICOLE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 7:37 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

It is my hope that my local government develop laws that better people's lives. I want to live in a state that has good schools, roads and access to healthcare. This law affects so few students. I would think there would be more important issues to discuss than whether a Transgender young woman plays sports.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: NICOLE JINES		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 9:24 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I oppose HB 1973 that proposes to remove the sunset from the sports ban. Youth sports bans exacerbate the existing stigma, bullying, and isolation faced by transgender children. While physical activity is vital for mental health, forcing children into environments that invite harassment is harmful and prioritizes the comfort of others over child’s well-being. Furthermore, science supports that if children medically transition at puberty, transgender athletes perform similarly to their cisgender peers so the ban would not be necessary if care is allowed to be guided by the medical professionals working with these families. This bill should be allowed to rightfully go through the entire process and allow for the final review to be done to determine if it is truly an issue that needs to be addressed at all.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: PAIGE DALRYMPLE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 3:57 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I have been a licensed nurse in Missouri since 2018. From a biological, medical standpoint the moment someone starts any type of hormone-replacement therapy or hormone blockers, they are at a distinct disadvantage than their peers. If an assigned male at birth has transitioned to be female and is receiving estrogen, then their clotting factors are affected, their lung capacity is affected, and their ability to recover is affected. The asinine idea that trans women are competing at an advantage over their cis-gender female counterparts is just medically incorrect.

Trans citizens make up less than 1% of our country's population, and trans athletes only make up about 0.002% of our athlete population. Trans women are not dominating their fields, most of them aren't even placing in the top of their divisions.

To limit a child's access to recreational sports in a time where childhood suicide is on the rise is nothing more than a gross misuse of power at the hands of our government. Participation in sports, thus having more peer interaction, is proven to aid in mental health in children and teens. For a state that loves to preach "save the children" it's ironic that you're actively trying to pass legislature that is nothing more than a detriment to the mental health of the same children you've sworn to protect.

This bill is bigotry disguised as "fairness." Coming from a nurse of eight years, there is zero medical advantage to taking hormone replacement therapy or hormone blockers, and because of that fact I adamantly oppose this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PAULA BOLLINGER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2026 11:39 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Chair and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

I am a Missouri voter who values fairness, basic dignity, and access to healthcare for all Missourians.

I am submitting testimony in opposition to HB 1672, HB 1608, HB 1854, and HB 2033 because these bills target gender transition related healthcare.

Missouri needs to stop meddling in people's private medical decisions and start working on a sustainable budget that helps normal families not just the wealthy. Missouri needs to address fair maps, protect direct democracy and work to support the people instead of politicians.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted, Paula Bollinger



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: QUINN JINES		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 10:15 PM	

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I am a person of faith appalled by HB 1973 and calling on the legislature of Missouri to oppose this bill. HB 1973 was introduced with the intention of prohibiting transgender girls from participating alongside cisgender girls in school sports. This bill reflects a broader national trend, with similar legislation being proposed or enacted in other states. By targeting transgender youth, particularly in the realm of athletics, HB 1973 exacerbates the challenges and discrimination that these young people already face. Rather than fostering fairness and inclusion, such measures further marginalize a vulnerable group, denying them the opportunity to compete, belong, and thrive in educational environments.

As a trans Christian woman in the United Methodist Church, I am called to treat everyone with dignity, particularly those marginalized by religion and society. Having faced exclusion myself, I understand the barriers transgender youth endure. Today, trans children are denied equal opportunities in sports, healthcare, and safety. We must ensure all children, including transgender youth, are treated with fairness and compassion.

I transitioned later in life, but with today's information and opportunities, it would have been much easier. Looking back, I realize that access to resources, supportive communities, and greater societal understanding now provide a far more welcoming environment for those embarking on this journey. When I made my decision, guidance was limited and finding information required significant effort. Now, there are countless stories, medical advice, and support networks available online, empowering individuals to make informed choices at any age.

It is heartbreaking to witness the pain and fear that such legislation inflicts on families simply seeking acceptance and safety for their children. These laws do not protect anyone; instead, they further alienate and endanger young people who are already vulnerable. We must remember that every child deserves to feel loved, valued, and safe in their communities.

Our charge as Christians is simple, as told by Jesus according to the Gospel of Mark: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself'. There is no commandment greater than these." I suggest that those of us who are Christians get to work doing just that.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: REBECCA KROLL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2026 9:18 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Chair and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

I am a Missouri voter who values fairness, basic dignity, and access to healthcare for all Missourians.

I am submitting testimony in opposition to HB 1672, HB 1608, HB 1607, HB 1854, and HB 2033 because these bills target gender transition related healthcare and create unnecessary barriers for people who are already vulnerable.

These decisions should be made by patients, families, and licensed medical professionals. When lawmakers insert themselves into private medical care, it does not improve outcomes. It creates fear, confusion, and harm. It also discourages providers from offering medically guided care, even when it is appropriate and necessary.

The job of legislators is to protect the people that they represent. By vilifying a group, you are failing in this process. No one is asking you to accept a person that you do not agree with, only to not make it your life's mission to make their lives harder or make them disappear. Diversity and the melting pot of the United States is actually part of our foundation. Please stop being intentionally cruel to people.

Missouri has real problems to solve. We need to improve healthcare access, protect rural hospitals, support working families, and keep communities safe. Bills like these do not move us forward. They divide us and put real people in the crosshairs.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to oppose HB 1672, HB 1608, HB 1607, HB 1854, and HB 2033.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RENE FREELS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 12:00 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RHIANNON TRASK		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 12:00 AM
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ROBERT JOHNSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 10:21 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SABRINA BONNETTE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 9:02 PM	
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2026 January 20

Testimony Opposed to the Injection of Unqualified, Unlicensed, and Religion-Based Legislation into our Missouri Laws regarding Transgender Individuals and their freedom to live their lives uninterrupted by cruel and unnecessary infringement on their human rights.

References:
<https://ictnews.org/archive/two-spirits-one-heart-five-genders/>

For the committee:

As a retired military person whose job it was to defend our freedoms and uphold the U.S. Constitution, I continue to be appalled at the sickening obsession which, quite honestly, appears to be somewhat perverted, the Missouri GOP legislators have with what is in other people's panties! The fixation on who is what and where they started as opposed to genetics, reality, and actual situations of human beings being born one sex but having chromosomes and biological differences from the every day male/female experiences is not a new thing. As far back as the Native Americans in the land that we have stolen, there were tribes who considered those with two sexes and up to five as indicated in Ref (a) to be an honored and revered human being. The sick fixation the GOP has on transgender matters really could be diagnosed as a mental health affliction. Because someone does not match your biblical or limited upbringing does not mean they do not have the same freedoms as any American Citizen to exercise their right to life being lived authentically, whether that involves bodily autonomy or participating in sports as an athlete amongst their peers.

The number of transgender individuals in the country, let alone the state of Missouri, is less than 1% of the population. Yet you continue to preface these laws as if it affects every person in your constituency? This is where the sickness observation made earlier comes into play. Just think of the ACTUAL good you could be doing instead of wasting time on a NON ISSUE with regard to such a small populace! You could be addressing needs of Senior Citizens, Homeless Veterans and Constituents, Foster Children which number 13,000 as of 2023, Domestic Violence, Child Support Enforcement, Child Abuse Services, or any number of topics which clearly NEED your attention. Instead, you and your religious zealots choose to focus on an issue which does not even affect your every day constituents lives, livelihoods, or ability to pursue their own endeavors. Focusing on a select few whose lifestyles and biology you fail to grasp or even embrace, just because it is different from what you grew up with.

Shameful.

Because the current occupant of the now trashed White House uses this as a tactic to engage and inflame people does not give you license to do the same. The behavior being exhibited by these proposed laws says one thing, " We do not trust parents to know what their own child needs." That is a very disturbing and actually blatantly UN AMERICAN viewpoint, You are not in charge of every family, as is obvious by the reprehensible statistics on domestic violence in our state, the 'misplaced foster children' , and the recurring violence against women which goes unchecked in many cases. Please disengage from invading constituents private family decisions on healthcare they choose to obtain. Last I checked, the majority of the GOP in Jefferson City who claim on their bio's to be full or part time pastors of some church or another. That is fine. But the minute you embark to inflict your own private religious beliefs into law is where you are violating my rights and those of my brothers and sisters who identify as non binary or transgender.

Please understand that your presence in the doctors office IS NOT NEEDED nor WELCOME. If you want to pursue a MEDICAL DEGREE in the field of genetics or psychology, have at it. But as merely an elected official, chosen to REPRESENT the people in your district, you are not authorized to inject yourselves into this space.

The idea of embracing those who are different is NOT a CRIME. Supporting those who wish to pursue their authentic selves should be a cause for accolades, not for this severe oppression you are attempting to inflict.

I served my country for 23 ½ years to DEFEND OUR FREEDOMS, NOT TO OPPRESS THEM. What you are proposing is the opposite of good Americanism and will cause harm to countless families and individuals. So many have already fled this state due to the ongoing oppression, do you really want no workforce whatsoever in Missouri because you have intimidated young people to the point of exodus? Please use your entire head to realize the economic, social, and safety factors of this heinous legislation you propose.

Ref (a) Ancient History (5000 BCE – 1000 CE)

Evidence of gender-diverse identities appears in the earliest hyper human societies:

Sumerian Culture (c. 5000–3000 BCE): Records describe the Gala, androgynous or trans priests of the goddess Inanna who took feminine names and spoke their own dialect.

Neolithic Burials (c. 2900–2500 BCE): Archaeologists in the Czech Republic discovered a biologically male skeleton buried with female grave goods and attire, suggesting a lived gender different from their sex.

Ancient Scythia (c. 400 BCE): Historians like Herodotus described the Enaree, a class of androgynous priests who lived as women.

Roman Empire (c. 200 BCE – 300 CE): Roman Emperor Elagabalus (r. 218–222 CE) reportedly preferred to be called a "lady," wore makeup and wigs, and offered large sums of money to any physician who could provide her with a vagina.

Historical Global Identities

Many cultures have long recognized "third gender" roles that fall under the modern transgender umbrella:

Hijra (South Asia): A community of third-gender individuals in the Indian subcontinent with spiritual and cultural significance documented for thousands of years.

Two-Spirit (Indigenous North America): A modern pan-Indigenous term for historical roles in many tribes that recognized individuals possessing both masculine and feminine spirits.

Muxe (Mexico): Among the Zapotec people of Oaxaca, muxe individuals have occupied a third gender role predating Spanish colonization.

Modern Medical and Linguistic History

While the people have always existed, the specific terminology and medical procedures are more recent:

1910s: German physician Magnus Hirschfeld coined the term "transvestite" and founded the Institut für Sexualwissenschaft in 1919, which provided some of the first affirming medical services before being destroyed by Nazis in 1933.

1931: Dora Richter became the first known transgender woman to undergo a complete surgical transition.

1940s: Michael Dillon became the first trans man to undergo phalloplasty (genital reconstruction).

1952: Christine Jorgensen became the first widely publicized person to undergo "sex reassignment surgery," bringing transgender awareness into the global mainstream.

1965: The term "transgender" was first coined by psychiatrist John F. Oliven; it became a popular umbrella term by the 1990s.

Ref (b) <https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/Trans-Adults-US-Aug-2016.pdf>

With absolute sincerity,

Ms. Sabrina Bonnette



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: SAGE CORAM		PHONE NUMBER: 314-652-3114
REPRESENTING: AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION OF MISSOURI		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 906 OLIVE STREET, SUITE 1130		
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 12:00 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SAMANTHA JONES		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 11:43 AM	

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These bills have irrevocably harmed youth and their families in our state. These bills should be sunset as they are an overreach of the state into the care and decisions of families by preventing access to education including extracurricular activities. These bills preventing access to sports because of gender expression are a violation of the first amendment of the US Constitution which is the freedom of expression. The Missouri Constitution also provides freedom of expression in Article I. The enforcement of these laws is also an invasion of privacy which is protected by the fourth amendment of the constitution. They are a violation of HIPPA as well by forcing children to reveal their medical information. They also puts children overall at a higher risk of sexual abuse by adults as they would have to reveal their gender to them. Are you going to have adults checking the genitalia of minors to decide which locker room or sports team they should be on to enforce these laws? What if the child is intersex and has ambiguous genitals? If you try to go by chromosomes then you could find a variety of different make ups other than XY or XX. There are also cases where people have chromosomes of the "opposite" sex but the genitalia of the one they are assigned at birth. Such as a person with XY chromosomes that have a phenotype expression of genitalia that is a vulva because they didn't receive the correct hormones in the womb. Rep. Ben Keathley of this Missouri House of Representatives agrees that parents should have the right to decide the education and medical care as well as privacy of that medical care, for their children unimpeded by the government. If you agree with Mr. Keathley then it should be understood sports and other extracurricular activities fall under education as it is Local Education Agencies (Public, Private, or Chartered) that often provide these activities. Preventing parents from making these decisions is a violation of their rights as much as it is a violation of the rights of the children. In many smaller LEAs such as Booneville, the sports programs are co-ed. Sports do not have to be separated by gender other than to determine that there is an inferiority to those deemed different which is a form of discrimination. These bills are state-sanctioned discrimination against children and their families for gender identity and expression. All children deserve the same opportunities to participate in sports and other extracurricular activities as a part of their education. These activities teach teamwork, resilience, discipline, and acceptance of each other. I would hope the members of this governing body would understand and value these lessons and choose to sunset these bills in favor of a world that provides this opportunity to participate in sports and other activities regardless of gender expression.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SARAH BERRY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/18/2026 7:58 PM
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HB 1973 raises serious constitutional and practical concerns by conditioning access to public education funding on a rigid statutory classification that invites litigation, administrative burden, and inconsistent enforcement across Missouri schools. While the stated intent is to preserve athletic opportunities for female students, the bill goes beyond safeguarding fairness and instead mandates exclusionary criteria tied to government records, exposing schools to loss of state aid and families to compelled disclosure disputes. Missouri already possesses tools under Title IX and existing athletic governance to address equity concerns without creating a statutory scheme that risks equal-protection challenges, privacy conflicts, and costly legal uncertainty for districts.

For these reasons, HB 1973 is neither narrowly tailored nor fiscally prudent and should not advance.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SARAH FELTS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 11:16 PM	
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SARAH MINKOFF		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 7:07 PM
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SARAH SHEPARD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/16/2026 5:07 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SCOTT ALLEN HAMMACK		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 9:19 PM
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There is no evidence that transitioning from male to female creates an unfair advantage in sports. People deserve an opportunity to participate in sports no matter what their gender is. I have been disabled since I was a child. I was always chosen last for sports activities because I wasn't very athletic, It sucked. I think its horrible to other these kids before they can even take the field.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SETH HURWITZ		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 10:56 AM
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My name is Seth Hurwitz, and I have been a resident of Missouri for all but two of the past 40 years. My wife and I, both teachers, raised our family in St. Louis, and our two grown children now live out-of-state; one of the major reasons they chose not to settle here is its attitude towards LGBTQ rights-- which are, we believe, human rights.

My younger child is trans and nonbinary. They came out to us at the beginning of high school, and, since then, we have learned a great deal about the care and professionalism of those in the medical field who helped them transition. It is not an easy process nor a quickly determined one. Without their support, our child would not be the loving, mature, caring twenty-something they are today. (They are considering teaching as a profession.)

I urge you to support gender-affirming care for those under 18, and, at the very least, to not overturn the 2023 negotiated sunsets to the care ban.

Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SHELLEY NELSON PROPST		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/17/2026 2:07 PM	
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I know that transgender women playing in women's sports has caused a huge amount of pain and chaos and understand that this may be an issue we can't fight, but I wish there were a more personal and empathetic way to handle these issues individually.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: STEVIE MILLER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 12:00 AM
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WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN GIBSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/15/2026 9:26 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. Hateful and uninformed.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SUZANNE MCGINNIS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/19/2026 5:39 PM	

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Out of the over 1,000 bills filed, I cannot believe this is your priority. A bill removing a sunset for a thing you already made illegal. The sunset was only added to help get the bills passed, yet here we are wasting taxpayer time & \$\$\$ once again on the obsession with children's genitals. The show me state rather it's become the show me how to leave state.

Let kids be kids. Let them play with their friends. Let parents make medical decisions with doctors instead of you playing doctor.

After 5 years- I have learned you aren't going to listen to us. You will vote as your party tells you so you can keep party support no matter the REAL consequences of the constituents. Sadly we are the ones that suffer from this. Not you. So please VOTE NO. Let these bills die here in this committee. Do not let them go further wasting your time and taxpayer \$\$\$.
 Thank you



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: TARA REUTER JOHNSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 10:11 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: TORI SACCO		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 3:49 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



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BILL NUMBER: HB 1973		DATE: 1/20/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANNE CARR WIEDENKELLER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/20/2026 1:38 PM

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I am against making laws prohibiting transgender people from athletic participation. The NCAA already has regulations concerning g that.