

CO HB. 1098

Written Testimony from [Women's Liberation Front](#)
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CO HB. 1098 – Women's Rights In Athletics

SUPPORT

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill (HB) 1098. WoLF is our nation's leading radical feminist, non-partisan, non-profit organization fighting against gender ideology. WoLF represents women of every political affiliation and belief system. We urge the Colorado leadership to support HB 1098.

HB 1098 is a strong bill which will ensure that the integrity and fairness of women and girls' sports will not be undermined by intrusion from men and boys.

Female-only sports ensure that women and girls will continue to have opportunities to compete in and win sporting events, as well as to advance their educational opportunities and careers.

On average, male athletes are physically larger, stronger, and faster than female athletes. This statement is not meant to diminish the amazing capabilities of female athletes, it is merely a fact based on biological reality. In competitive athletics, women and girls are seriously disadvantaged when forced to compete against men and boys. It is incredibly unfair (and inconsistent with long-established state and federal legal protections) to force women and girls to compete against males.

Sex-separated sports exist because of biological and physiological sex differences that are highly relevant to athletics. We (rightly) do not separate sports by any other belief system or ideology, such as religion or political party, and we should not separate by an athlete's personal beliefs about their sex. A female athlete's place on a girl's soccer team is not contingent on identifying with the stereotypes of femininity, just as a male athlete's place on a boy's soccer team is not contingent on expressing masculinity.

When female athletes are forced to compete in de facto coed teams, they are deprived of titles, records, medals, scholarships, and opportunities to win, or participate, fairly and safely. In just one example, in 2019, two male track runners blew away female competitors in Connecticut's state track championship and smashed 15 state records previously held by female competitors. Overall, physiological sex differences are so large that the US Women's National Team was beaten in a soccer scrimmage by the FC Dallas under-15 boys' team in 2017. These differences

are not reversed with the lowering of testosterone levels or other forms of medical transition, though this is not usually required anyway.

Another glaring example that could have been avoided with a bill like HB 1098 is collegiate swimmer Lia Thomas, a male in Pennsylvania who made headlines for dominating women's events, and bumping female athletes off their own podiums. Thomas has provided the wider public with an eye-opening view of the sheer number of female athletes whose success can be displaced by just a single, otherwise mediocre male athlete when he is allowed to compete at an elite level on a female-only team.

Even worse, women are at an increased risk of injury when playing contact sports with men. Fallon Fox, a male MMA fighter, fractured a woman's skull during a competition in which he did not disclose he was a man until shortly before the fight. The woman said it was the most overpowered she had ever felt.

Other states have already passed similar laws - with bipartisan support in their legislatures - protecting women's and girls' sports. National polling suggests that such policies are supported by a majority of voters across the political spectrum, including Democratic voters. The public knows that eliminating women's sports wouldn't be fair.

WoLF urges Colorado's leaders to support HB 1098 because this bill will ensure a fair playing field for women and girls throughout the state, and protect the integrity of women's sports in Colorado.

Thank you for reviewing our testimony. WoLF is available to serve as a resource for you if you have questions or would like more information about the importance of single-sex sports, or any topic related to gender ideology and sex-based inequalities.

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