



To the members of the House Judiciary Committee:

I am following up regarding the request for more information after the testimony from Jennifer Chavez and Kacie Mills of WoLF in opposition to HB 453.

First and foremost, I urge you to hear the voices of incarcerated women speaking out on this issue, since they could not speak for themselves at the hearing today.

- [Letters from Incarcerated Women](#)
- [Incarcerated Woman Speaks Out on the Impact of SB 132](#)
- [Tomieki's Story](#)
- [Open Letter](#) from Woman II Woman, an advocacy group for incarcerated women in California, regarding CA's self-ID law.

Second, regarding the population questions raised by the committee.

- According to the state of California, since they implemented the self-ID bill being proposed in Maryland, they have seen a **30% increase** in incarcerated people identifying as transgender.
- There have been nearly **300 requests for transfer from men's to women's facilities**, and dozens have already been transferred.
- **Twenty percent of the transferred inmates so far are sex offenders.**
- As the KPSS representative mentioned in her testimony, the Bureau of Prisons data shows that **48% of trans-identified federal inmates are sex offenders.**
- Regarding data collection: last year, the ACLU sued the state of Washington to prevent disclosure of the number of men who had been transferred to women's facilities. Recently, a [bill](#) was introduced to exempt info on "gender identity" from disclosure under public records laws. This is aimed at obscuring the fact that the state was [transferring sex offenders](#) to women's prisons, one of whom went on to rape a cognitively disabled woman.

Third, a clarification about "anatomy" and whether trans-identified men pose a threat to women. The only high-quality longitudinal [study](#) to date showed that even after decades of hormone therapy and genital surgery to remove the penis:

*"male-to-females had a significantly increased risk for crime compared to female controls (aHR 6.6; 95% CI 4.1–10.8) but not compared to males (aHR 0.8; 95% CI 0.5–1.2). This indicates that they retained a male pattern regarding criminality. The same was true regarding violent crime."*

But in fact, the vast majority (~90%) of trans-identified men actually retain their penises, and not all of them even take hormones. HB 453 certainly does not impose any such requirements. Under California's "self-ID" law, nearly all of the men who have been transferred to women's prisons have their penises. They are being housed in cells with women, which has already led to sexual harassment, assault, and rape. I [testified](#) last year in front of the California Senate Rules Committee on this issue and shared detailed info on the conditions on the ground. This included info on some of the men transferred, such as:

- Shawn Gustafson molested 6 year-old and 8 year-old, and has reportedly been placed into segregation multiple times for sexual infractions since his transfer.
- Patrick White is a convicted rapist and member of the Aryan Brotherhood.
- Jonathan Robertson is in administrative segregation pending a sexual assault investigation.
- Christian Ramirez sexually assaulted a woman within weeks of transfer. His victim disclosed immediately to a staff member, and was almost sent to solitary confinement as a result.
- Anthony Lipsey, serving life for murder, assaulted his female cellmate and broke her jaw.
- Jason Hann, on death row for murdering two infants, is being housed in the same facility as his victims' mother. (Note: Jason is the **only** one listed here who has had surgery).
- Michael Contreras Hernandez - serving life for murder, including murdering another inmate in the men's prison where he spent two decades. Now under investigation for sexual harassment of multiple women, including voyeurism.

Finally, it was mentioned that WoLF is representing four incarcerated women in a federal civil rights lawsuit challenging the California law. More info about that can be found at [stopsb132.com](http://stopsb132.com). There are also legal challenges to gender identity policies in Florida and New Jersey, with more anticipated in other jurisdictions where women continue to be abused and have their human rights violated in this way. Maryland would be opening itself up to immense liability by increasing the risk to incarcerated women of violence, rape, and pregnancy.

Women are not human shields. Solve the problem of male violence in men's prisons where it happens.

I am more than happy to take questions or pass along further information to any interested person.

Regards,

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