

Instructions:

1. Use the template to draft your letter
2. Click this link <https://calegislation.lc.ca.gov/Advocates/> to access the letter portal:
 - a. Create an account if you do not already have one
 - b. Click on "Submit a Letter"
 - c. Select a bill
 - i. Measure: AB 89
 - ii. Session Type: Regular
 - d. Click "Search"
 - e. Select a Committee
 - i. Arts, Entertainment, Sports, & Tourism
 - f. Select Stance: Oppose
 - g. Subject: AB 89
 - h. Upload your letter, review, and submit

INSERT ORGANIZATION LETTERHEAD

February XX, 2025

The Honorable Chris Ward
Chair, Assembly Committee on Arts, Entertainment, Sports, & Tourism
1020 N Street, Suite 152
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 89 (Sanchez) – OPPOSE

Dear Assemblymember Ward,

On behalf of [ORGANIZATION], I am writing in opposition to AB 89 by Assemblymember Kate Sanchez, the so-called *Protect Girls' Sports Act*, which would ban transgender girls from participating in high school sports. This bill undermines longstanding protections to ensure equal educational opportunity for all students and perpetuates the harmful and false narrative that transgender girls are a threat to the safety and wellbeing of other students. AB 89 is part of a nationwide, coordinated effort to sow fear and insecurity about transgender people and chip away at hard-fought civil rights protections, and California must stand firmly against it.

[INSERT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR ORGANIZATION]

School sports play a significant role in many young people's learning and development, helping them to develop critical life skills such as communication, teamwork, and leadership. Participation in sports is also linked to better academic outcomes, improved confidence and self-esteem, and lower levels of stress and anxiety. Transgender girls, like all students, deserve the same opportunity to learn these valuable skills and build a sense of belonging with their peers.

In 2013, the Legislature passed AB 1266, the *School Success and Opportunity Act*, which requires local school districts to allow transgender students in grades K-12 to fully participate in school activities and

programs—including sports—consistent with their gender identity. For over a decade, local school districts across California have established policies to allow transgender girls to compete alongside their cisgender peers and worked to create an environment where all students are treated with dignity and respect. These policies are working.

In contrast, AB 89 would require the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) to enact regulations so that only students assigned female at birth are permitted to participate on girls' high school sports teams. The bill would discriminate against transgender girls and prohibit them from playing school sports—even if they have been living as girls and receiving treatment for gender dysphoria for years. The bill would also invite scrutiny and harassment of any student perceived as not conforming to sex stereotypes, and violate student privacy by requiring young girls to answer invasive personal questions if they want to play sports. Put simply, AB 89 would subject young girls to needless interrogation or make them risk public ridicule to join a sports team.

[ORGANIZATION] strongly supports laws and policies that protect transgender youth from discrimination and promote a safe and supportive school environment for all students. For these reasons and more, we urge you to reject attacks on transgender youth and vote 'no' on AB 89.

Sincerely,

Name

Title

Organization