

**Testimony in Opposition of SB208**  
**Allie Fennell (She/her)**  
**Senate Education Committee**  
**2-23-2021**

My name is Allie Fennell, I was born in Topeka. I play on an all girl's travel hockey team, as well as my high school's golf team. Growing up I've played every sport imaginable, from ballet to basketball. Besides sports I also participate in International Baccalaureate, Model United Nations, and debate.

Not only do youth sports provide intense physical activity, they also create memories and friendships that will last for the rest of an athlete's life. Participation in these organizations helps to develop social skills, grow confidence, and create opportunities. In order to create a safe inclusive environment for all youth, I ask you not to pass SB208.

As a non-transgender high school athlete I would like to see sports remain a safe space for all people, including transgender youth. Keeping their right to play on the teams and in the sports that support them is encouraged by the very people you claim to be protecting. I am not afraid to compete with or against a transgender female. All girls should be allowed to be participate in the sports they excel at, without fear of being demanded to prove their sex.

Claiming that you want to see cisgender women "obtain recognition and accolades," is a deception. After all, when was the last time you watched a woman's sporting event? This bill is not designed to allow cis-athletes success, but to take your transphobia and transform it into a law.

In closing, I ask you to protect everyone's right to compete as their authentic self. Vote against SB208.