## STATE OF KANSAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE CAPITOL, 174-W 300 S.W. TENTH AVENUE TOPEKA, KS 66612 (785) 296-5593 brandon.woodard@house.ks.gov



DISTRICT OFFICE
9051 RENNER BLVD. #3002
LENEXA, KS 66219
(913) 335-0919
woodardforkansas@gmail.com

## **BRANDON WOODARD**

30TH DISTRICT

Opposition Testimony
Senate Committee on Education
Senate Bill 208
February 23, 2021

Chairperson Baumgardner, Vice Chair Erickson, Ranking Member Sykes, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide **testimony in opposition to SB 208**: "Creating the fairness in women's sports act to require that female student athletic teams only include members who are biologically female."

This legislation is just one bill in a series of attacks on our trans neighbors. Over the years, we have seen attempts to ban trans individuals from the military, regulate their bathroom usage, refuse business in the name of so-called "religious freedom," and now to ban them from the sports field. Let us be clear, this bill is not about sports, it is about attacking trans Kansans.

Beyond the moral reasons to oppose this bill, the proposed legislation also includes misleading information within the bill text. With any time spent reading the articles cited in SB 208, you will note several discrepancies between the study and what is being proposed today:

- The study being cited was conducted on 25–30-year-old individuals, not school students
- The study did not involve trans athletes: "We acknowledge that this study was conducted with untrained individuals and not transgender athletes". (e812)
- "The reported activity consisted mainly of low to moderate intensity aerobic activities such as brisk walking". Performance was not measured on any athletic activity.

This legislation is dangerous, puts a target on the backs of already-vulnerable students, and will negatively impact the image of Kansas throughout the country. **To avoid costly lawsuits and risk Title IX funding, I urge the committee to reject SB 208**. Thank you for your time.

Brandon Woodard State Representative