ACTION PACK
SB 140: Anti-Trans Sports Bill

Thank you so much for getting involved and protecting trans youth in Alaska!

SB 140 is a blatantly discriminatory bill designed to exclude transgender girls and deny them the ability to participate fully in sports and school community. This bill will profoundly violate all students’ privacy by forcing educators and coaches to identify and separate transgender youth from their peers.

This bill is part of a coordinated attack on transgender student athletes across the country. Like so-called “bathroom bills,” these policies aim to erase and exclude trans people from sports, school communities, and all aspects of public life.

TESTIFY: Thursday, March 3rd at 10:00am in OPPOSITION to SB 140

How to Testify at the Hearing:
- Call five minutes before the hearing. Calling from:
  - Anchorage (907)-563-9085
  - Juneau (907)-586-9085
  - Fairbanks (844)-586-9085
  - All other locations in Alaska (844)-586-9085
- Ask to be redirected to the Senate Education Committee meeting to provide public testimony on SB 140
- Stay on the line, when it is time to testify they will call on you and unmute your line
- Be sure to state your name, where you live, and that you oppose SB 140

Unable to call in to testify? No problem-- you can email or call committee members any time!

Senate Education Committee (where the bill is now) - Senate.Education@akleg.gov
- Chair Roger Holland (R - Anchorage, N), 907-465-4843, Senator.Roger.Holland@akleg.gov
- Vice Chair Gary Stevens (R - Homer, P) 907-465-4925, Senator.Gary.Stevens@akleg.gov
- Member Shelley Hughes (R - Palmer, F) 907-465-3743, Senator.Shelley.Hughes@akleg.gov
- Member Peter Micciche (R - Soldotna, O) 907-465-2828, Senator.Peter.Micciche@akleg.gov
- Member Tom Begich (D - Anchorage, J) 907-465-3704, Senator.Tom.Begich@akleg.gov
Testimony Tips

- State your name
- State the community you live in (your district or zipcode is fine, don’t share your address)
- Thank the committee for their time
- State that you oppose SB 140
- Give a few sentences about why you oppose SB 140
- Restate opposition to SB 140

SB 140 Talking Points

- Discriminatory bills like SB 140/HB 230* heighten trans students’ risk of being bullied and attacked, which increases their risk of mental health issues and suicide.
- Denying trans students the opportunity to participate strips them of the many benefits of participating in sports, including better self-esteem, increased sense of belonging, and improved grades.
- This bill would violate basic privacy rights by requiring educators and coaches to police whether a student is trans or not, which the school is not legally or ethically authorized to do under medical privacy laws, professionalism standards, and non-discrimination laws.
- This bill imposes a narrow and unscientific definition of “sex” that invalidates gender identity – this is contrary to the growing consensus of medical and mental health professionals, not to mention federal law.
- There is simply no data to support fairness concerns when trans athletes participate, especially since less than 0.6% of people identify as transgender and not all want to play sports.
- These bill targets students of color – who are already routinely policed, shamed, and dehumanized in school settings – and will face outsized consequences, as administrators and other athletes perpetuate racist and sexist stereotypes about femininity and gender presentation.
- This bill will lead to the stigmatization and isolation of trans students, undermining their health, safety, and social and emotional development.

There are real issues with gender parity in sports, like unequal funding, resources, and pay. Promoting baseless fears about trans athletes does nothing to address these pressing problems. SB 140 does not solve any real issues, and instead actively stigmatizes, isolates, and denies basic participation in school activities to trans students. To protect students’ privacy and push back against discrimination, lawmakers must oppose this bill: let trans students be part of the team.
Crafting an Email Opposing SB 140

- Start your email by thanking the legislator(s) for reading your email. Then move right into a specific statement or request, for example, “I ask you to oppose SB 140 regarding preventing trans youth from participating in sports.” Generally, an effective email takes 2 to 3 sentences to state some facts and 2 to 3 sentences to say why you personally support this bill.
- End the email by reiterating your request, which can be worded slightly differently than your introductory request.
- If you are a constituent of a legislator on the committee, mention that. If you’re unsure, you can look it up on the Alaska Legislature website by scrolling to the bottom and entering your address in the “Who Represents Me” box.
- Your email does not need to be perfect, it just needs to be personal. Never be worried that your email “isn’t good enough.” You are a resident, and therefore our legislators want to hear from you!
- Sign the email with your name and a description of where you live (can include legislative district and/or zip code). Do keep in mind, your email will be part of the public record and may accidentally be shared with your physical address.

Want to go above and beyond to protect trans youth in Alaska? Write a Letter to the Editor! If you do write an LTE, get in touch if you want help with it and to let us know to keep an eye out for it!

Letter to the Editor Tutorial

Why do we write letters to the editor?
We write letters to get our voice out there. As a member of the community, your opinions are important and valued. Other community members, leaders, and voters read these editorials. They need to know that there are people in this community who care about our issues, including protecting trans kids.

How do I write a letter?
- Choose the newspaper you’ll be submitting it to, and look up their letter to the editor limits (i.e. 200 words).
- Make it personal.
  - You can use the talking points, but if you feel comfortable, it is best to personalize your message to help connect your reader to the issue.
- Make the ask.
  - What can the community do to help? Be clear about what you want.

Contact us at brenae.baker@ppallianceadvocates.org and/or kc.casort@ppallianceadvocates.org.