For Immediate Release: Arizona Women of Action files Motion to Intervene In "Save Women's Sports Act" Lawsuit

Phoenix, AZ – Friday, June 23, 2023, attorneys with America First Legal Foundation (AFL) filed a motion on behalf of Arizona Women of Action (AZWOA) to intervene in a lawsuit to protect Arizona's "Save Women's Sports Act," which prohibits biological males from playing on girls' sports teams at public schools.

AZWOA is joined in the motion by parents: Anna Van Hoek, Lisa Fink, and Amber Zenczak, who are mothers of daughters who have experienced concerns about biological boys in their sports.

AZWOA decided to intervene in the lawsuit, *Doe v Horne*, after Attorney General Kris Mayes refused to defend the law or fund the defense of it.

The underlying complaint against the law was filed in April by two biological males: a pre-pubescent 11-year-old who wants to play girls' soccer, basketball, and cross-country, and a 15-year-old volleyball player, who is on puberty-blockers and cross-sex hormones.

"I'm shocked that our Attorney General is turning her back on the thousands of female athletes working hard to compete in school sports. AZWOA cares about the rights of every student, and we're proud to stand behind girls who should not lose their chance to compete and win fair and square, based on their skill and hard work," stated Kim Miller, Founder & Director of Arizona Women of Action, and mother of three daughters who played competitive sports, and one competing now at the collegiate level.

"The proposed intervenors have a strong protectable interest in defending Arizona's Save Women's Sports Act, A.R.S. § 15-120.02. They offer a critical and unique perspective as yet unrepresented in this action: that of Arizona parents and their student-athlete daughters who support the Save Women's Sports Act," argued AFL attorneys in the Motion.

"A case like this cannot be decided without having the most impacted parties represented. As our motion states, parents 'offer a critical and unique perspective.' Arizona's girls deserve equal rights and fair competition and their parents deserve to be part of the debate," stated Miller.

Earlier this month, AZWOA conducted an online survey of its email subscribers asking their opinions about the "Save Women's Sports Act" and about the participation of biological males in girls' sports. Out of the 272 respondents, 99.6% support Arizona's Save Women's Sports Act and 72% said they would consider removing their daughter from an all-girls' sports team/league if a biological male participated. Some of the respondents commented:

"Biological males have an unfair advantage. Also, allowing biological males to compete as girls is discriminatory towards girls in terms of competition, scholarships, playing time, and enjoyment of sport."

"It's dangerous for the girls and unfair. it should not be allowed. My daughter got a cross country scholarship to college. It wouldn't have happened if boys were also allowed in her sport."

"I was in high school when Title 9 passed. This feels like a huge step backwards in what we gained."

"Breaks my heart to think my daughter won't be given the same opportunities I was as a biological female to compete and learn from sports with males being allowed to compete."

Read the full complaint, the motion to intervene, and the motion to dismiss.

About Arizona Women of Action

AZWOA's purpose is "to revive the American dream of strong families, safe cities, and thriving kids," with a focus on citizen action in the areas of education, community, life, anti-trafficking and prayer. Their website is azwomenofaction.com, you can follow them on Twitter and Instagram and Facebook under @AZWomenOfAction and @AZWokeSchools. AZWOA qualifies as a tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contact: info@azwomenofaction.com