

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 503

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR MOON.

2309S.02I

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary

AN ACT

To amend chapter 167, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to middle school, high school, and college athletics.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 167, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto
2 one new section, to be known as section 167.780, to read as
3 follows:

167.780. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited
2 as the "Save Women's Sports Act".

3 2. An interscholastic or intramural athletic team or
4 sport that is sponsored by a public school or a private
5 middle school or high school, or by a public or private
6 institution of postsecondary education, the students or
7 teams of which compete against a public middle school,
8 public high school, or public institution of postsecondary
9 education shall be expressly designated as one of the
10 following based on the biological sex assigned at birth:

- 11 (1) "Males", "men", or "boys";
12 (2) "Females", "women", or "girls"; or
13 (3) "Coeducational", "coed", or "mixed".

14 3. No athletic team or sport designated for females,
15 women, or girls shall be open to students of the male sex as
16 assigned at birth.

17 4. No governmental entity, licensing or accrediting
18 organization, or athletic association or organization shall

19 entertain a complaint, open an investigation, or take any
20 other adverse action against a school or institution for
21 maintaining separate interscholastic or intramural athletic
22 teams or sports for students of the female sex as assigned
23 at birth.

24 5. A student who is deprived of an athletic
25 opportunity or suffers direct or indirect harm as a result
26 of a violation of this section shall have a cause of action
27 for injunctive relief, damages, and other relief available
28 under law against the school.

29 6. A student who is subject to retaliation or other
30 adverse action by a school, institution of postsecondary
31 education, or athletic association or organization as a
32 result of reporting a violation of this section to an
33 employee or representative of the school, institution, or
34 athletic association or organization, or to a state or
35 federal agency with oversight of schools or institutions of
36 postsecondary education in the state, has a cause of action
37 for injunctive relief, damages, and other relief available
38 under law against the school, institution, or athletic
39 association or organization.

40 7. A school or institution that suffers direct or
41 indirect harm as a result of a violation of this section has
42 a private cause of action for injunctive relief, damages,
43 and other relief available under law against the
44 governmental entity, licensing or accrediting organization,
45 or athletic association or organization.

46 8. A civil action brought pursuant to this section
47 shall be initiated within two years after the harm has
48 occurred. A person or entity that prevails on a claim
49 brought pursuant to this section is entitled to:

- 50 (1) Monetary damages, including for psychological,
51 emotional, and physical harm suffered;
52 (2) Reasonable attorneys' fees and costs; and
53 (3) Any other relief considered appropriate by the
54 court.

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