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LSG Floor Report For GENERAL STATE CALENDAR- October 14, 2021

Author	Caption	Committee	Analysis & Evaluation	Recommendation
HB25 By: Swanson Klick Hefner Morrison Noble	Relating to requiring public school students to compete in interscholastic athletic competitions based on biological sex.	Constitutional Rights & Remedies Vote: 8 Ayes 4 Nays 0 PNV 3 Absent	<p>HB25 requires students in public schools or open-enrollment charter schools to compete in the gender of their biological birth sex based on their birth certificate, or another official government record if the birth certificate is unobtainable. There is an exemption for female students who want to compete in a designated male sport if no corresponding event is offered to females (i.e., football).</p> <p>This bill does not address barriers to women’s sports. The Women’s Sports Foundation’s 2020 report listed four major categories to address disparities in women’s sports and transgender athletes were not mentioned. HB25 is discriminatory and has been crafted to attack and harm transgender, non-binary, intersex and gender non-conforming youth, despite evidence that these youth are at an increased risk for suicide. During the month of May, while floor debates on similar legislation were happening, Trans Lifeline saw a 71.6% increase in calls and from 2020-2021 the number of Texas youth seeking the Trevor Project’s (a toll free confidential counseling service for LGBTQ+ youth) support grew 150%. The fact that this bill has been filed and continuously resurrected has already done significant harm to Texas youth.</p> <p>The issue that this bill seeks to solve is a fabricated issue, as there is no clear scientific evidence that proves that testosterone increases athletic performance for elite athletes. In fact, there are between 150 to 200 transgender athletes competing in NCAA sports, yet to date, only one has won an NCAA title, that being in Division II 400-meter hurdles. Additionally, there is no data on if or how often the non-issue this bill seeks to solve occurs. Furthermore, even though the LSG opposes the rule, current UIL rules prohibit transgender students from competing with their correct gender.</p>	<p>Unfavorable Evaluated By: Brittany Sharp Brittany@TexasLSG.org (210) 748-0646</p>

OK for Distribution - Rep Garnet Coleman