

March 5, 2025

Chair Peggy Scott  
2nd Floor, Centennial Office Building  
658 Cedar Street  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Scott and Members of the House Judiciary Finance and Civil Law Committee:

OutFront Minnesota, our state's largest LGBTQ+ advocacy organization, writes in opposition to HF 1233 (Zelevnikar).

As discussion on the house floor just a few days ago over HF 12 made clear, there are serious concerns around how proposed policies excluding trans athletes square with our human rights laws in this state.

This bill seeks to create an athletics exemption to the Minnesota Human Rights Act that would be the basis for excluding specifically trans women and girls as well as non-binary and Two Spirit individuals from full participation in athletics. As an organization, we believe in the full participation of all Minnesotans in all aspects of public life, including athletics. Moreover, as an organization that was instrumental in the 1993 updates to the MHRA to protect sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression; we take seriously any efforts to amend and exempt protections that Minnesotans count on.

Athletics is no small part of our public life as Minnesotans. It's an important opportunity for individuals of all ages to find community, connection, and confidence. We should be proud of our history of inclusive policies and robust protections for the human rights of all Minnesotans - including in sport. HF 1233 opens the door to athletics exclusionary policies that are not rooted in sports science, that place *all* women and girls at risk for greater scrutiny, and that have the potential to reinforce the exact kinds of sex-stereotyping that Title IX and our Minnesota Human Rights Act have sought to address and prevent.

We respectfully ask Representatives to vote no on HF 1233.

Sincerely,

Kat Rohn  
Executive Director