

# SENATE BILL NO. 781

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR MOON.

4177S.01H

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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