



January 8, 2024

To the Esteemed Members of the Ohio General Assembly

Dear Honorable Legislators,

Collectively from across our country, we write to you with a profound sense of urgency and disappointment regarding Governor Mike DeWine's veto of the vital OH HB68, aimed at protecting our children from dangerous gender transition services and preserving the integrity of female sports in Ohio's interscholastic athletics. This veto is a disservice to basic values and principles, and it demands immediate and decisive legislative action.

The allowance of biological males to compete in female sports is not only unfair but also a clear display of misogyny, permitting men to dominate in arenas meant for women, and undermining the achievements and opportunities of female athletes. This inequity goes against the very essence of fairness and equality that our society strives to uphold.

Permitting gender-reassignment therapies, often dishonestly referred to as "gender-affirming care," is tantamount to child abuse. These irreversible treatments, prescribed to developing bodies and minds, have lifelong physical and psychological consequences. It is our collective duty to protect these young lives from such irreversible decisions that they are too young to fully comprehend or consent to undergo.

The Bible states in Genesis 1:27, "So God created man in his own image...male and female he created them." This divine distinction of genders is not only natural, but foundational to our existence and should be respected and preserved. The blurring or altering of this inherent design, especially in minors, is a grave and consequential error.

Governor DeWine's recent executive orders fall woefully short of the necessary legislation needed to protect both children and women. While we appreciate his ban on surgical gender reassignment of children, it provides no safeguards against dangerous therapies and puberty blockers more frequently used in gender reassignment of minors.

We do extend gratitude to the legislature for affirming parental rights regarding these issues. Parental decision-making is crucial in the upbringing and well-being of children. Your efforts to uphold these God-given rights are commendable and align with basic values.

As elected representatives of Ohio, you face a decision of profound moral and ethical significance. Overriding Governor DeWine's veto is not merely a political stance but a stand for the protection of our children, the preservation of fundamental truths, and the upholding of fairness and safety in female sports. Your decision will undoubtedly serve as a precedent for the rest of the nation grappling with these topics. We urge you to act with the courage and conviction that this moment requires.

We trust wisdom and moral clarity will lead you to override Governor DeWine's veto in order to honor our shared values and safeguard the future of our society and its youngest members.

Thank you for your dedication to the state of Ohio and its people.

Sincerely,

The undersigned Americans, for the protection of women and children

THE DANBURY INSTITUTE

1455 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20004 | [DanburyInstitute.org](http://DanburyInstitute.org)