

# GEORGIA'S S.B. 1 HARMS ALL STUDENTS

## THE ACLU OF GEORGIA OPPOSES S.B. 1



**The ACLU of Georgia opposes Senate Bill 1 because trans girls' participation in school sports is not a sizable issue in Georgia and because the harms of the bill – discrimination, fear-mongering, and potential of gender-based violence – far outweigh any proposed “protections.”**

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- The politicians who are inundating our political and cultural lives with these attacks are using their belief that the general public is uncomfortable with transgender people as an opening to limit legal protections and opportunities for all women, people of color, and immigrants.
- Despite the outsized media attention, there are very few transgender student athletes across the nation or in Georgia. Among youth ages 13 to 17 in the United States, 1.4% identify as transgender. Of that percentage, even fewer are involved in sports.
- S.B. 1 creates harm for trans AND non-trans students. The bill leaves the door wide open for discrimination – discrimination of trans girls, of Black girls, and of anyone who does not fit into someone's preconceived “norm” about their appearance or identity.
- While the percentage of trans girls in sports is low, the percentage of racially diverse students in Georgia schools is significant – almost 54 percent, to be exact. Black girls, specifically, already experience disproportionate targeting and discrimination. S.B. 1 creates yet another avenue for Black girls to be put under a microscope, this time regarding something as sensitive and personal as their gender and reproductive biology.
- Every student is at risk under this bill. Any player could be targeted with questions about their gender – whether that's from an opposing team, a parent whose kid didn't make a team or another student who simply feels that someone doesn't belong.
- By stoking fears about trans people, those pushing anti-trans narratives and policies deny transgender people the rights and freedoms needed to live. Attacks on trans people are part of a larger effort to return to rigid rules for how people can exist in society, further erode civil rights protections, and give the government an ever-increasing role in personal decisions about our bodies. It did not start with trans people, and it will not end with trans people.
- Our country and our communities depend on the freedom of all people to be themselves without fear. A threat against any one group is a threat against us all. We can fight for the future we and our families all deserve by pushing back against these attacks and all efforts to push people into the shadows because of who they are. For the safety of your future and those you care about, we ask that you help protect trans girls and resist these efforts to attack a politically unpopular group.



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LEGISLATIVE WORK**