



BETTER TOGETHER
NEW MEXICO

P.O. Box 95735
Albuquerque, NM 87199
(505) 235-6323

RE: Support **HB 185 Protection of Women's Sports Act**

Mr./Madame Chair and Committee Members:

Better Together New Mexico (BTNM) brings together hundreds of advocacy groups and thousands of New Mexicans statewide. Our mission is to unite New Mexicans through grassroots initiatives and work to positively shape the decisions that affect our lives, families, and communities.

BTNM strongly supports HB185, Protection of Women's Sports Act. We believe that this bill will protect the rights of women and girls to be competitive in sports without having to compete against biological males.

Since males are physiologically stronger and more powerful than females, it is unfair for women and girls to ever have to compete against males in any sport. Furthermore, it is unfair for women and girls to be displaced from teams and scholarships by boys and men.

Having women and girls play against boys and men in sports is a safety issue, more than anything else. For instance, high schooler Payton McNabb in North Carolina suffered severe head and neck injuries after a transgender athlete spiked a volleyball into her face.

Payton has suffered long-term effects from her injuries, including partial paralysis, impaired vision, learning disabilities, constant headaches, and depression.

Considering this story, many others just like it and the overall safety of New Mexican girls and women, I urge you to vote "YES" on HB 185 Protection of Women's Sports Act.

Thank you for considering my comments,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carla J. Sonntag".

Carla J. Sonntag
President and CEO