

July 24th, 2020  
Stamford Board of Representatives  
888 Washington Blvd, 4th Floor  
PO Box 10152  
Stamford, CT 06904-2152

To the Honorable 30th Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford,

We, the undersigned parties, are community organizations that work to advance the rights of LGBTQ+ individuals. As such, we have spent a combined total of over 219 years working with transgender and gender non-conforming youth in our communities and helping them gain access to various opportunities, including academic opportunities.

We understand that on July 27th the Education Committee will meet to discuss a Resolution Urging the State of Connecticut to Uphold Title IX Protections for Transgender Students. If approved, from there it will be moved on to the August 3rd, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Board of Representatives for a final vote on its approval.

We strongly urge the Honorable Members of the Education Committee to vote to support this resolution in its current form. We would further ask that the Board of Representatives then approve this resolution, and have it sent to the Office of the Governor of the State of Connecticut.

Title IX was put in place to ensure students would not be denied academic and athletic opportunities on the basis of sex. With the recent Supreme Court decision indicating that gender identity is inextricably linked to sex under US law, we believe it is impossible to interpret Title IX to in any way exclude transgender girls, or any transgender or gender non-conforming youth. If transgender girls are denied access to athletics in accordance with their gender identity, this is a violation of the law.

Transgender and gender non-conforming youth are among the most at-risk youth in our educational system. They deserve our protection, not persecution.

We the undersigned,

PFLAG Hartford  
with Mark Pixley  
President, PFLAG Hartford

PFLAG National

Trans Lifeline  
with the Rev. Elena R. Vera  
Executive Director, Trans Lifeline

Robin McHaelen  
Executive Director, True Colors, Inc.

New Haven Pride Center  
with Patrick J Dunn  
Executive Director, New Haven Pride Center

Shari L. Shapiro  
Executive Director, Kids In Crisis

Joseph Belisle  
Coordinator & Adult Facilitator, Lighthouse

Triangle Community Center  
with Edson Rivas  
Interim Executive Director, Triangle Community Center