



## The Protect Girls' Sports in Maine Citizen's Initiative

ON THE BALLOT • NOVEMBER 2026

### ABOUT THE BALLOT REFERENDUM

The **Protect Girls' Sports in Maine initiative** (named "An Act to Designate School Sports Participation and Facilities by Sex") is a citizen-led ballot referendum that will appear on the November 2026 ballot. It's common sense and simple - the Act requires public schools to designate competitive sports teams & private facilities (bathrooms, locker rooms, showers) by sex: male, female, or co-ed.

**Everyone plays. No one is banned.** Absolutely every student has the opportunity to compete on a competitive sports team designated for their sex, or on a co-ed team (when no single-sex option exists). The Act ensures all Maine public school kids have access to fair, safe competitive sports and to private, single-sex spaces. This is inclusive, fair, and safe.

*This isn't political, it's simply common sense. It's about protecting the sex-based rights that belong to every student in Maine.*

### WHAT THE PROPOSED ACT DOES

#### Ensures Fair & Inclusive Sex-Designated Sports

Schools designate competitive sports teams by sex: male, female, or co-ed. Every student gets to compete – absolutely nobody is excluded and nobody is ever banned. This is inclusive, fair, and safe.

#### Private Single-Sex Spaces Are Protected

Private facilities like bathrooms, locker rooms, and showers are designated by sex. Both females and males deserve privacy and safety in their own spaces - this Act guarantees it.

#### Ends Sex-Based Discrimination in Schools

Harmonizes the Maine Human Rights Act with federal Title IX, giving Sex equal protection and opportunity under the law, and effectively ending the sex-based discrimination happening in Maine schools.

#### Equal Protections for All Maine Students

Full legal protections under the Americans with Disabilities Act for individuals with verifiable differences in sex development. Every student is covered, considered, and protected. All kids matter equally.

### HOW WE GOT HERE & WHERE WE'RE GOING

**This movement started with dads that wanted males out of female spaces & sports.** In 2025, a coalition of more than 8,000 Maine Girl Dads banded together over a shared belief: their female daughters deserve equal opportunity & protection under the law and deserve single-sex sports & private spaces in their schools. When the Maine Principals' Association refused to act, these dads went to Augusta. When the Legislature failed to pass protections, these Mainers took matters into their own hands.

The result: the Protect Girls' Sports in Maine ballot referendum, that aims to designate school sports & spaces by sex. **More than 82,000 Mainers signed the petition, far exceeding the required threshold, and the Act is now officially headed to the November 2026 ballot.** There's nothing more Democratic than a citizen-led initiative, decided by a simple majority vote. Mainers decide!

**Now, we need to win at the ballot box.** That means getting the word out this year and getting to the polls this November. Sex-based rights are not a political talking point nor a party-line issue; the vast majority of Maine agrees this is simply common sense.

### QUICK FACTS

- ✓ **Who decides and when?** You do. The Protect Girls Sports in Maine referendum will be decided by a simple majority vote on the Maine ballot this November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026. This is Democracy in action! The bill would have an effective date of January 1, 2027.
- ✓ **Does this ban anyone from sports?** Absolutely not. Every student can compete on a team designated by their sex (male, female), or on a co-ed team. In other words, the way it always was. Nobody is banned nor discriminated against. Everyone plays.
- ✓ **Is this just about sports?** No, private spaces will also be protected. Females and Males both deserve private, sex-designated facilities like locker rooms, bathrooms, showers in our schools. Everyone gets to continue using private spaces & facilities, simply designated by sex.
- ✓ **How is "sex" defined?** "Sex" is defined as a person's biological status as male or female, as recorded at birth on their original birth certificate. Simple & scientifically-accurate. The bill also ensures all legal protections and accommodations afforded under Federal law (including the Americans with Disabilities Act) for any individual born with a biologically verifiable disorder or difference in sex development.
- ✓ **What about the Maine Human Rights Act?** The proposed act harmonizes the MHRA with Federal Title IX. Designating teams and private spaces by sex does not constitute unlawful discrimination under Maine law (nor Federal law) and has been deemed not in conflict with the MHRA. In fact, the proposed bill stops the unlawful sex-based discrimination currently happening in Maine schools. Maine is way too progressive to allow sex-based discrimination to continue!
- ✓ **What does it cost taxpayers?** Nothing. For decades Maine designated sports by sex (and other states do it now) at zero additional cost. All enforcement requires is the birth certificate that every student already provides to enroll. How much did this cost when you were a kid?

**This November, Maine Decides.**

Donate • Spread the Word • Vote YES

[ProtectGirlsSportsinMaine.com](https://ProtectGirlsSportsinMaine.com)