

CONCERNED
WOMEN *for* AMERICA
LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE

October 5, 2023
Press Conference, Roanoke College

I am Teresa Pregnall, State Director for Concerned Women for America (CWA) of Virginia. Concerned Women for America is the largest public policy women's organization in the country and the Commonwealth. Today, we stand in solidarity with the Roanoke College female swim team, saying that all female athletes deserve fair competition and equality. Forcing these ladies to stand up for their civil rights and threatening them to accept a biological male who "identifies" as a woman on their team is anti-woman and discriminatory.

Concerned Women for America is not alone in defending their rights. Since 2020, twenty-three states have enacted laws to protect female athletes from unfair competition in sports designated for women and girls. This wave of legislative victory, including in the U.S. House of Representatives, is largely due to the Biden Administration and National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) doubling down on redefining the meaning of "sex" under Title IX as "gender identity," not biological reality, and prioritizing inclusion of trans-identifying male athletes over the rights of female athletes in women's sports.

Concerned Women for America of Virginia urges Roanoke College and our elected officials of the Commonwealth to stand up and protect its female athletes who have trained and worked hard to excel in their sport. Expecting them at any time to give up their rights to a female-only team and their equal athletic opportunities under Title IX is unjust and discriminatory. It is intolerable that this team faced emotional blackmail and was expected to compromise their unique dignity as women.

The NCAA has no right telling Roanoke College or the Commonwealth of Virginia to turn its back on protecting its women athletes and its obligations under Title IX. By upholding female-only sports teams, Roanoke College can stand in solidarity with women and send a message to the NCAA and all its member institutions to:

- Preserve women's sports for collegiate athletes in Virginia and across the nation.
- Ensure fairness in women's sports in Virginia and across all athletic conferences and divisions.
- Support biological facts and basic civil rights for women in Virginia and across America.

Thank you.

Concerned Women for America of Virginia
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