



## **DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

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### **Hawaii Attorney General Leads Coalition in Support of Transgender Student Athletes**

HONOLULU – Hawaii Attorney General Clare E. Connors and New York Attorney General Letitia James co-lead a coalition of 22 Attorneys General supporting transgender women and girls participating in women’s sports. In an amicus brief filed in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, the coalition supports the plaintiffs-appellees’ challenge to an Idaho law that categorically bars transgender women and girls from participating in sports consistent with their gender identity and provides that any female student athlete may be subject to an intrusive sex verification process. The brief argues that the law fails to advance any legitimate governmental interest and serves only to stigmatize and exclude an already vulnerable population.

“Despite its title, Idaho’s ‘Fairness in Women’s Sports Act’ categorically excludes transgender women and girls from participating in women’s sports, unlike every other state in the union,” said Attorney General Connors. “The law is discriminatory and unconstitutional.”

In many of the amici States, transgender students are ensured nondiscriminatory treatment in school activities and permitted to participate in sports consistent with their gender identity. As the amicus brief demonstrates, the experience of the amici states in administering inclusive policies contradicts the assumption underlying Idaho’s law—that allowing transgender women and girls to participate in women’s sports compromises opportunities for cisgender students. On the contrary, in the amici States’ experience, inclusive policies benefit all students.

Joining Attorneys General James and Connors in the amicus brief are the attorneys general of California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and the District of Columbia.

Page 2

A copy of the amicus brief can be found [here](#).

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