TESTIMONY SUBMITTED BY CASSIE LINK

(University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill track and cross country athlete)

Testimony for the North Carolina State Legislature Tuesday, April 18, 2023

Dear North Carolina Lawmakers,

Being a girl and then a woman in sport MADE me who I am. I learned how to push my body to the limits and gained confidence in my strength, will, power and humanity. I learned how to continue bravely through tough times and how to lose and wake up the next day and try harder. I made friendships for life - some of my best friends. Through thick and thin I learned how to be a teammate, a partner, to support others and work together for a greater cause. All these qualities set me up to bravely face all that life throws your way - and it throws a lot. Sport made me who I am. You have the chance to allow generations of girls to gain these same advantages I did through sports. Please keep female sports fair & safe by only letting biological girls/women compete in the female sports.

Thank you, Cassie Link