

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rep. Emerson: Statement on Public Hearing of AB 195

MADISON – Today, the Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities held a public hearing for Assembly Bill 195. [Assembly Bill 195](#), author Rep. Barb Dittich (R-Oconomowoc), seeks to discriminate against transgender youth by barring these youth from participating in sports according to their gender identity. Rep. Jodi Emerson (D-Eau Claire) who is a member of the Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities, released the following statement in response:

“Our state’s transgender community deserves our love, respect, and support just like any other community. All students should have the right to participate in school sports in a way that is consistent with their gender identities. This legislation seeks to perpetuate harmful and offensive stereotypes against our transgender individuals. Transgender women ARE women.”

“During today’s hearing, I was appalled at the hurtful and discriminatory comments made by some of my colleagues. Even though this bill will not be enacted into law, the damage is done and our state’s transgender community now knows they cannot count on the majority in this legislature to protect their rights.”

“I want the transgender community in the 91st District and across the state to know they are valid, they belong in all our state’s sports and activities, and that they will always have my support. These acts of discrimination cannot be accepted, and I will continue to fight for the rights of our LGBTQ+ community.”

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