

BARBARA DITTRICH

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 38th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

For Immediate Release June 16, 2021 Contact: Rep. Barbara Dittrich 608-266-8551

Rep. Dittrich Committed to Protecting Women's Rights

AB 195 and AB 196 pass Assembly Floor, Waiting on Senate Action

Madison – On Wednesday, June 16th Representative Barbara Dittrich (R - Oconomowoc) shared her enthusiasm for the passage of 2 bills that would ensure women's rights are protected in the following statement:

"Despite the many misguided, hateful speeches at the Capitol today, I am grateful to be able to stand up for girls and women. It was an honor craft this legislation and give them a platform to be heard, ensuring their rights are not trampled while respecting everyone who wishes to compete in athletics. These bills are not a matter of transphobia, hate, or any of the false pejoratives thrown at women who wish to stand up for women in sports. This is a matter of equality and fairness. It is patently false that this legislation seeks to kick transgender individuals out of sports. Instead, it creates informed consent for everyone competing with three defined categories – male, female, and co-ed.

"One of the most remarkable days I have served in this legislative body was when the Senate and Assembly took up these bills in committee and women were given the opportunity to share their experiences. In my office, prior to those hearings, women gathered who were sexual assault victims, along with conservative Christians, amateur athletes, suburban mothers, and feminist lesbians – a DIVERSE group of women all united in standing together as one and saying 'MEN COMPETING IN WOMEN'S SPORTS IS WRONG'." How can we ignore the voices of these women who have experienced the adverse consequences firsthand?

"When Title IX became federal law in 1972, these landmark provisions were honoring and protecting the abilities and achievements of women in their own divisions in competitive sports. In the same way, these bills are about fairness and inclusion, making room in competitive sports for EVERYONE to feel comfortable. I am proud to join the historic legacy of women's rights advocates in passing these bills."

Assembly Bill 195 and Assembly Bill 196 are now awaiting passage in the State Senate.

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