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COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 2176 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6100

March 20, 2025

Executive Director Ron Nocetti California Interscholastic Federation 4658 Duckhorn Drive Sacramento, CA 95834

Dear Executive Director Nocetti,

We write regarding the California Interscholastic Federation's (CIF) continued defiance of federal law in allowing biological males to compete in female athletics. CIF's refusal to comply undermines fairness, jeopardizes female athletes' safety, and contradicts clear federal directives.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 guarantees equal educational opportunities for women and girls—including in athletics. Federal courts have repeatedly struck down the Biden administration's attempts to alter these protections by redefining "women" to include biological males. On February 5, 2025, President Trump reaffirmed Title IX's original intent through his Executive Order, *Keeping Men Out of Women's Sports*, mandating that federal agencies revoke funding from any educational program violating Title IX by enabling male athletes to compete in women's categories.

As a result, the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights has already launched a Title IX investigation into CIF for publicly indicating its intention to violate federal antidiscrimination law. The Department of Justice has also made clear that it will not hesitate to enforce the law against any athletic association that forces female athletes to compete against biological males.

CIF must immediately correct its unlawful policies and bring itself fully into compliance. Failure to do so would continue to threaten the safety and fairness of women's sports, female athletes' dignity, and the federal funding of all California high schools.

We request a prompt response outlining the actions that CIF is currently taking to comply with federal law and ensure a level playing field for female athletes. The integrity of women's sports is non-negotiable; you must act to uphold these fundamental protections.

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Please contact Huntley Campbell (Huntley.Campbell@mail.house.gov) with Chairman Kiley's staff and Brad Thomas (Brad.Thomas@mail.house.gov) with Committee on Education and Workforce staff with any questions and updates on this request.

Sincerely,

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Kevin Kiley Chairman Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education

Timbalberg

Tim Walberg Chairman Committee on Education and Workforce

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See generally U.S. CONST. art. I, § 8, cl. 8; *McGrain v. Daugherty*, 273 U.S. 135, 174 (1927) (holding that "the power of inquiry—with process to enforce it—is an essential and appropriate auxiliary to the legislative function"); *Eastland v. U.S. Servicemen's Fund*, 421 U.S. 491, 504 (1975) (holding that "the power to investigate is inherent in the power to make laws"); *Barenblatt v. United States*, 360 U.S. 109, 111 (1959) (holding that "the scope of power of inquiry … is as penetrating and far-reaching as the potential power to enact and appropriate under the Constitution.").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 119th Cong. at 7 (Jan. 16, 2025), https://rules.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/rules.house.gov/files/documents/houserules119thupdated.pdf.