

# Planning and Development Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** SB-917

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO STUDY THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF FEDERAL TITLE IX PROTECTIONS FOR ALL

**Title:** MUNICIPAL RECREATION AREAS AND SCHOOL SPORTS FACILITIES.

**Vote Date:** 3/8/2023

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable

**PH Date:** 2/1/2023

**File No.:**

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## **SPONSORS OF BILL:**

Planning and Development Committee  
Rep. Aundre Bumgardner, 41st Dist.

## **REASONS FOR BILL:**

This bill establishes a working group to consider whether it would be feasible to assess all municipal recreation areas and facilities used for organized sports and all public school-maintained sports facilities for their compliance with Title IX of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1971. This working group may be needed to investigate the inequality in recreational sports facilities. Although Title IX protects individuals from certain unequal treatment, there may still be inequality in the facilities used by male and female athletes.

## **RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

None expressed.

## **NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

[Connecticut General Assembly, Senate Majority Leader, Bob Duff](#)

Unfortunately, inequality continues to constrain women in sports, even at the local level, as Title IX protections have not been adequately extended to inform municipal planning. Schools and municipalities often construct or update facilities for male athletes, without ensuring that female athletes also have access to the requisite facilities for their sport.

We can and must act to address gender inequality in youth athletics. With the information learned through this bill, we could begin to tackle this issue with informed and effective legislation in future legislative sessions.

**Connecticut General Assembly, Senate Republican Leader, Kevin Kelly**

As the proud father of a Division 1 athlete, I witness firsthand that all athletic fields and recreational facilities are not created equal. Advancement of this bill and analyzing the feasibility of codifying Title IX protections in Connecticut as they pertain to municipal recreation will allow us to make bipartisan progress in terms of future impactful legislation.

**Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association, Executive Director, Valerie Collins**

This bill would establish a working group to assess all municipal recreation areas and facilities. CRPA thanks the committee for designating an appointment to a park and recreation professional that is a member of the Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

None expressed.

**Reported by: Matthew Lombardo**

**Date: 3/13/23**