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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Republicans Push Through Anti-Trans Bills

MADISON - Today, the Wisconsin State Assembly passed a pair of bills to prohibit transgender student-athletes from participating in sports. Assembly Bill 195 prohibits collegiate athletes from participating on the sports team of the gender in which they identify. Assembly Bill 196 prohibits K-12 students from participating on the sports team of the gender in which they identify.

Representative Dianne Hesselbein (D-Middleton) spoke to the harm these bills would cause youth in Wisconsin:

"It is particularly harmful that these unnecessary bills to target a small population of vulnerable youth are before us today during Pride Month. This is a time that should be a joyful expression of love, but instead, we are here to address these hateful bills. Let's be clear, these bills do not protect anyone, but rather cause significant damage to our community. In Wisconsin, we should strive to create a welcoming community for all. We should encourage people of all backgrounds to come to Wisconsin to live, work, and raise a family. These bills say Wisconsin is only welcome to some. That's not forward-thinking and it represents a mean-spirited agenda. We have a long way to go to ensure that everyone in our state is treated equally and I wish we were here today to discuss the real issues Wisconsinites are facing every day, not belittle youth that are just trying to be themselves."

Governor Tony Evers noted at a press conference that he would, "veto any bill that would negatively impact our kids. Period."

"Thankful we have a governor that cares for our kids. I expect these bills to be vetoed if they arrive on his desk," concluded Hesselbein.

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