

Florida House of Representatives

February 7, 2023

Via U.S. postal mail and email

President John Gerdes
Florida High School Athletics Association
1801 NW 80th Boulevard
Gainesville, FL 32606

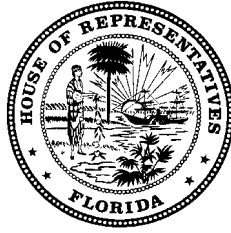
Dear FHSAA President John Gerdes and Board of Directors:

It has come to our attention that the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) is contemplating requiring female student athletes to disclose their menstruation cycle in the physical form they must fill out as a condition to participate in organized sports. These new reporting requirements would be highly invasive and no girl should be forced to disclose her bodily functions to someone who is not her mother, father, caretaker, or physician.

The rights of all girls in sports, including their right to privacy, must be respected as afforded in the State of Florida's Constitution. Young girls playing in organized sports, no matter what religious belief, sexual orientation, or bodily functions, are protected by our State Constitution.

Specifically, Section 23 of the Florida Constitution states: "SECTION 23. Right of privacy. — **Every natural person has the right to be let alone and free from governmental intrusion into the person's private life except as otherwise provided herein.**"

There is absolutely no reason for the FHSAA to collect such private information and no reason why the schools need it. It is our understanding that if the FHSAA were to implement this menstruation reporting requirement, other school personnel like a coach or athletic director would also have access to this highly sensitive information. We ask that you and the Board of Directors individually **provide answers** to the following questions by **March 7, 2023**:



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1. What is the science behind requiring that girls report their menstruation cycle to participate in organized sports?
2. Why is this question being considered now?
3. If parents do not feel comfortable in reporting their daughters' menstruation cycle as a condition to participate in organized sports, can the student participate without filling out that portion of the form? If not, why not?
4. Has any member serving on the Board of Directors raised any concerns or objections? If so, what were they?
5. What security measures has the Board considered to prevent this personal information from being accessed by anyone or is that an afterthought?
6. How is this proposal HIPAA compliant?

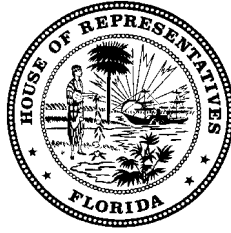
The FHSAA requiring Florida's female athletes to report their menstruation cycle is an egregious overreach and is not needed. Above all, **we respectfully ask the FHSAA rescind its unfounded and unnecessary menstruation reporting requirement proposal.** We urge your prompt attention to this matter.

Yours in service,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fentrice D. Driskell".

State Representative Fentrice Driskell, District 67
Leader, Florida House Democratic Caucus

Representative Gallop Franklin II, District 8
Representative Allison Tant, District 9
Representative Angela "Angie" Nixon, District 13
Representative Yvonne H. Hinson, District 21
Representative LaVon Bracy Davis, District 40
Representative Anna V. Eskamani, District 42



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