
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Senator Sasha Renée Pérez, Chair

2025 - 2026 Regular

Bill No: AB 932
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Version: June 19, 2025
Urgency: No
Consultant: Lynn Lorber

Hearing Date: July 16, 2025

Fiscal: Yes

Subject: Community youth athletics programs: sex or gender discrimination.

SUMMARY

This bill extends existing anti-discrimination provisions in youth sports to also apply to local educational agencies (LEAs) and to school and recreation facilities and resources.

BACKGROUND

Existing law:

- 1) Prohibits any city, county, city and county, or special district, including, but not limited to, a community services district, recreation and park district, regional park district, regional park and open-space district, regional open-space park district, or resort improvement district from discriminating against any person on the basis of sex or gender in the operation, conduct, or administration of community youth athletics programs or in the allocation of parks and recreation facilities and resources that support or enable these programs. (Government Code (GOV) § 53080 (a))
- 2) Defines “community youth athletics program” to mean any athletic program in which youth solely or predominantly participate, that is organized for the purposes of training for and engaging in athletic activity and competition, and that is in any way operated, conducted, administered, supported, or enabled by a city, county, city and county, or special district. (GOV § 53080 (c))
- 3) Defines “parks and recreation facilities and resources” to include, but not be limited to, park facilities, including, but not limited to, athletic fields, athletic courts, gymnasiums, recreational rooms, restrooms, concession stands and storage spaces; lands and areas accessed through permitting, leasing, or other land use arrangements, or otherwise accessed through cities, counties, cities and counties, or special districts; sports and recreation equipment; devices used to promote athletics such as scoreboards, banners, and advertising; and all moneys used in conjunction with youth athletics. (GOV § 53080 (d))
- 4) Requires, in civil actions brought for violations of # 1 above, or under other applicable anti-discrimination laws alleging discrimination in community youth athletics programs, courts to consider specified factors, among others, in determining whether discrimination exists. (GOV § 53080 (f))

- 5) Requires, in making the determination pursuant to # 4 above, a court to assess whether the city, county, city and county, or special district has effectively accommodated the athletic interests and abilities of both genders in any of the following ways: the community youth athletics program opportunities for boys and girls are provided in numbers substantially proportionate to their respective numbers in the community; and where the members of one gender are underrepresented in community youth athletics programs, the city, county, city and county, or special district can demonstrate that the interests and abilities of the members of that gender have been fully and effectively accommodated by the present program and allocation of resources. (GOV § 53080 (g))
- 6) States legislative intent that girls shall be accorded opportunities for participation in community youth athletics programs equal, both in quality and scope, to those accorded to boys. (GOV § 53080 (e))
- 7) Authorizes enforcement by a civil action for injunctive relief or damages or both, which shall be independent of any other rights and remedies. (GOV § 53080 (j))

ANALYSIS

This bill:

- 1) Extends existing anti-discrimination provisions in youth sports to also apply to LEAs and to school and recreation facilities and resources.
- 2) Prohibits anything in this bill from being construed to invalidate any existing consent decree or any other settlement agreement entered into by a city, county, city and county, special district, or LEA to address gender equity in athletic programs.
- 3) Authorizes enforcement against a city, county, city and county, special district, or LEA by a civil action for injunctive relief or damages or both, which shall be independent of any other rights and remedies.
- 4) Defines “local educational agency” as a school district, county office of education, or charter school.
- 5) Defines “school and recreation facilities and resources” as including, but not limited to, school facilities, including, but not limited to, athletic fields, athletic courts, gymnasiums, recreational rooms, restrooms, concession stands, and storage spaces; lands and areas accessed through permitting, renting, leasing, or other land use arrangements, or otherwise accessed through LEAs; sports and recreation equipment; devices used to promote athletics such as scoreboards, banners, and advertising; and all moneys used in conjunction with youth athletics.

STAFF COMMENTS

- 1) ***Need for the bill.*** According to the author, “AB 932 shines a light on longstanding practices that exclude and marginalize girls in sports. Oftentimes

girls join a club sports team because their preferred sport is not available until high school, or because they are hoping to improve to be able to play at a college or professional level. Under current law, boys' club teams can still be afforded better practice times, more gym or field time, or different prices than the girls' team for the corresponding sport by a school district or local education agency. Many of these practices are borne out of longstanding relationships between boys' club teams and school rental facilities, compounding historical inequities. In addition to concerns about disparities in the quality of facilities, girls' sports clubs face gender-based discrimination when trying to find adequate practice times to rent out school facilities. While previous legislation has aimed to curtail inequities at city and county parks, AB 932 would close the loophole that still allows discrimination against young women in school facility rentals to third-parties such as club sports groups. This loophole creates a pathway for continued gender-based discrimination, and sends the message to young women that their sport, their talent, and their hard work will be overlooked from the start of their athletic careers."

- 2) ***School facilities used by community athletic programs.*** Existing law prohibits the use of public funds for school sponsored athletic programs that fail to provide equal opportunities for athletes of different genders. Existing law also prohibits local governments and special districts from discriminating against any person on the basis of sex or gender in the operation, conduct, or administration of community youth athletics programs or in the allocation of parks and recreation facilities and resources that support or enable these programs. Neither of these laws address situations where school facilities are used by third-party community athletics programs - there is no requirement that LEAs allocate facilities and resources to third-party organizations on an equitable basis.

As noted in other committee analyses of this bill, the Davis Joint Unified School District had used a first-come first-served model as its district policy to allocate use of its gymnasium by third-parties. While this should be a Title IX issue, it is considered a loophole because the facilities in question are being rented to third parties. Upon receipt of complaints about inequitable practice times, the Davis Joint Unified School District voluntarily changed its policy.

Also noted in other committee analyses of this bill, the City of Davis settled with the Davis Youth Softball Association after allegations that the girls' softball teams were paying for field rental and electricity fees at a city park, while the boys' baseball team enjoyed shaded dugouts and water fountains at the field across the street, at a field reserved for their exclusive use, for \$1 per year.

- 3) ***Prior legislation.***

AB 2881 (Aguiar-Curry, 2020) would have required gender equity in community sports and reporting of gender equity information by each local agency with a community athletics program. AB 2881 was never heard due to the compressed legislative schedule in 2020.

SUPPORT

American Academy of Pediatrics, California
California Teachers Association
CFT — A Union of Educators & Classified Professionals, AFT, AFL-CIO
LGBTQ+ Inclusivity, Visibility, and Empowerment

OPPOSITION

Californians United for Sex-Based Evidence in Policy and Law

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