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For Immediate Release

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## **Statement of Rep. Jerry O'Connor on Gov. Evers' Veto of the Save Women's Sports Act**

MADISON - Representative Jerry O'Connor (R- Fond du Lac) released the following statement on Governor Evers' veto of AB 377, the Save Women's Sports Act.

"I am disappointed by Gov. Evers' decision yesterday to veto the Save Women's Sports Act. With the stroke of his pen, Evers has taken a stand against women's sports, significant majority of Wisconsinites, and undone the decades of progress that women have made in athletics.

The proposal would designate sports teams in Wisconsin as male, female, or co-ed based on the biological sex on an athlete's birth certificate. Numerous other states and global sports organizations, including World Athletics, Union Cycliste Internationale, and the women's professional golf tour, NXXT Golf, have taken a similar stance to the Wisconsin Legislature in protecting and promoting women's sports.

Across our country, women's sports are under threat by political activists seeking to institute their partisan agenda at the expense of our communities' school-aged female student-athletes. Rather than representing the views of the [71% of Wisconsinites](#) who support the Legislature's proposal, Gov. Evers chose to once again cater to the extreme views of his far-left base and out-of-state billionaire donors.

I co-sponsored and supported AB 377 because I believe that we should protect the safety of student-athletes and promote the well-earned merit achievements of women in sports. I agree with Rep. Dittrich and Sen. Knodl that we must stand up for the rights of female students and ensure that they have an equal chance to succeed in sports. I will continue to support efforts to protect student-athletes and promote women's achievement in sports."

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