

NANCY MACE
1ST DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

HOUSE ARMED SERVICES
COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND REFORM

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS



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January 27, 2026

Mr. Mark Hafner, CCAA Board
mhafner@homesc.com

Mr. Hafner:

I have received correspondence from concerned parents in the Coastal Carolina Aquatic Association (CCAA) regarding your Board's decision to allow biological males to compete against biological females and presumably access female locker rooms. This policy is a violation of privacy and a betrayal of every girl in your league who wishes to compete.

Women fought for decades to secure their place in athletics. Title IX opened doors for generations of female athletes. These hard-won gains are not up for debate.

The direction of our country is clear. Whether it's the Executive Order 14201, "Keeping Men Out of Women's Sports" or "South Carolina's Save Women's Sports Act," lawmakers are doing everything in their power to protect the rights of women and girls. Regardless of your funding, you are swimming against the tide of law and common sense.

Your email dated May 27, 2025, that was forwarded for my attention, is a case study in the erasure of women's rights. You wrote that requiring birth certificates is "not reasonable" and that a "thoughtful decision" was "not possible" mid-season, yet you had no difficulty allowing a biological male to compete against girls, and presumably this means they can use the locker room of the underage girls too.

Exhibition competition or not, a boy swimming in a girls' heat, using girls' private facilities, tells every girl in your league that her safety and her rights don't matter, her achievements don't matter, and her privacy doesn't matter.

You invoked the CCAA's mission to "encourage participation by as many children as possible" as justification. The participation of one child does not give that child the right to violate the privacy, safety, and competitive opportunities of every girl in your league.

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My understanding is CCAA made this decision and did not inform parents. And this decision was made without the knowledge or consent of vulnerable underage girls or their parents.

These girls deserve to compete on a level playing field. They deserve to change clothes without a biological male in the locker room. These are not radical demands, these are the basic protections afforded to women and girls. Period.

Failure to protect minor girls will mean I will escalate this matter publicly and ensure every parent of a daughter in the CCAA is made aware unless you take swift action now and we can avoid the public shame and embarrassment that will come along with it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy Mace". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rep. Nancy R. Mace
Member of Congress

CC: Senator Chip Campsen; Representative Tom Hartnett; Representative Kathy Landing;
TOMP Council Member John Iacofano; Mom and Entrepreneur Katie Shields