

From: National Women's Law Center
Sent: 2/3/2016 2:20:55 PM
To: Haley, Nikki
Cc:
Subject: Support Equal Athletic Opportunities

Feb 3, 2016

Governor Nikki Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley,

As your constituent, I urge you to look into our state's civil rights obligations and the allocation of school athletic opportunities by race and gender.

Girls, and especially girls of color, receive far fewer opportunities to play sports than white girls, white boys, and boys of color. This disparity has both short- and long-term consequences. Students who don't get to play sports lose out on the opportunity to get athletic scholarships, which can be a critical step toward higher education. Girls who play sports have better health outcomes and are more likely to stay in school, abstain from drug use, and have positive academic and employment outcomes. I do not want my state to deny girls these benefits.

That's why I ask you to look at athletic opportunity as a state-wide issue, and ensure district-level resource allocation does not result in discrimination based on race or gender.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Parker Brown-Nesbit
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