



Talking Points

- The Bill:
 - **Defines and codifies the definitions of sex-based words** already used in state code—words such as man, woman, male, and female.
 - Why? Because when these laws were passed, it was assumed that these words were tied to biology. **We've seen the negative consequences—particularly to women—when these words aren't defined (i.e. men in women's dorms, men in women's prisons, men in locker rooms with girls and women, men in women's sports)** This bill clarifies the original public meaning of statutes that use sex-based words at the time they were passed.
 - President Trump just issued this same guidance to all federal agencies through his executive action on Monday. But his **executive order only pertains to federal agencies and statutes.**
 - **The Alabama Legislature has a responsibility to our citizens to codify these terms and ensure our laws always are based on objective truth and protect women and men as they were written to do.**
 - **The federal government can't do that for us.**
 - **Clarifies the state's interest in protecting certain single-sex spaces** where doing so advances *equal opportunity, privacy, safety, or fairness* and ensures single-sex spaces are for women.
 - My bill is an important housekeeping measure intended to ensure that laws passed by the legislature are applied as this body intended—and not twisted by judges and bureaucrats. This bill doesn't prevent the Alabama legislature from passing laws to protect certain groups in specific contexts. But it **will** prevent males who identify as women from claiming they have an automatic **right** to access women's spaces and opportunities in **all circumstances**.
 - The bill gives meaning to common words so that they cannot be twisted and manipulated by judges or bureaucrats. It simply clarifies definitions of words that Alabama already is using in law, so that we are all speaking a common language.
 - The bill helps protect places **already designated** as single-sex (such as prisons or athletic teams) from legal attack. This legislation will help stop legal challenges to single-sex spaces by those who believe

government should **never** separate males and females—in sports, in prisons, domestic violence shelters, etc.

Anticipated Questions/Responses:

-What inspired or motivated you to introduce your legislation again this year?

Words have meaning, including the word woman. Unfortunately, we've seen that meaning forgotten, twisted, or disregarded across the nation. My intent in filing this bill is to make sure words already used in Alabama laws have uniform definitions so that we are all speaking the same language and our courts have clarity when interpreting our laws. This is not controversial, this is simply a good government bill.

- What is the purpose the bill is meant to accomplish?

Democracy and transparency. Where the word woman appears, Alabamians deserve to know what that means. This gives Alabamians a voice.

- How have you and other lawmakers responded to Alabama who have testified in opposition to the bill and who have brought up concerns about they perceive the bill will negatively affect transgender people?

They are misinformed about the bill because outside groups are mischaracterizing it and instilling fear. The fact is, this bill doesn't create any new rights for anyone and it does not take away anyone's legal rights. The bill is a definitional bill for our courts to have guidance when interpreting laws that already exist in Alabama. If anyone in the state is not happy with the laws we already have on the books, they can work with their legislator to bring a bill that changes the law. **That's how the legislature works and definitions give rise to a more transparent governing process.**

- Anything else you'd like to add.

Let's not turn this bill into something it is not. Merely adding widely understood definitions to existing terms is not a controversial action. Any negative reaction shows something a little sad happening in our nation. Have we become so radicalized as a society that we cannot acknowledge that men and women are equal but not *identical*?