
HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING ASHLEY BADIS, ALEXIS BADIS, ABIGAIL POTHIER, AND
TATIANA ARTEAGA AS TRAILBLAZERS FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND
EQUITY IN HAWAII HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS.

1 WHEREAS, James Campbell High School graduates, ASHLEY
2 BADIS, ALEXIS BADIS, ABIGAIL POTHIER, and TATIANA ARTEAGA
3 advocated for gender equality as students by raising awareness
4 regarding the lack of stand-alone locker rooms for female
5 athletes, which highlighted concerns regarding equity, safety,
6 and lack of equal opportunities; and
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8 WHEREAS, despite Congress passing Title IX of the Education
9 Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination on the basis
10 of sex in any federally funded education program or activity,
11 ASHLEY BADIS, ALEXIS BADIS, ABIGAIL POTHIER, and TATIANA ARTEAGA
12 brought attention to inequities taking place in their school
13 with girls' sports receiving fewer resources than boys' sports;
14 these resources included practice and competition facilities
15 along with adjustments in scheduling resulting in a
16 prioritization in boys' sports; and
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18 WHEREAS, in 2018, in an unprecedented move, ASHLEY BADIS,
19 ALEXIS BADIS, ABIGAIL POTHIER, and TATIANA ARTEAGA were joined
20 by the ACLU of Hawai'i in filing a federal class-action lawsuit
21 over the lack of girls' facilities and opportunities in Hawaii
22 schools, claiming a violation of Title IX; and
23

24 WHEREAS, during the 2022 legislative session, the Hawaii
25 State Legislature appropriated more than \$60 million to build
26 new locker facilities for female athletes, including \$6 million
27 designated for a new athletic facility at James Campbell High
28 School, which includes a new girls' locker room; and
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30 WHEREAS, in July 2023, ASHLEY BADIS, the lead plaintiff,
31 was presented with a Billie Jean King Youth Leadership Award at



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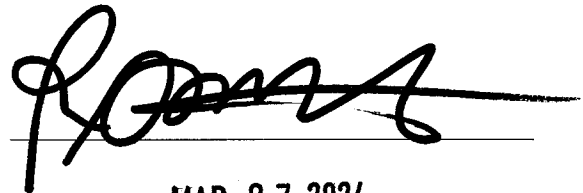
1 the ESPY Awards ceremony for her efforts to ensure Title IX
 2 compliance to end gender discrimination in high school sports,
 3 which spearheaded change within her community and the State of
 4 Hawaii; and

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 6 WHEREAS, at the end of 2023, the parties settled the gender
 7 equity lawsuit; the settlement included a seven-year compliance
 8 plan for monitoring gender equality of female athletes, regular
 9 visits by an independent evaluator to ensure equal athletic
 10 opportunities, the creation of a hotline and complaint process
 11 for students, parents, and staff to report violations, and
 12 protections for students who raise issues about gender equity
 13 from retaliation; and

14
 15 WHEREAS, on February 16, 2024, the U.S. District Court
 16 approved the settlement in this landmark class-action lawsuit;
 17 the settlement ensures equal treatment for female high school
 18 athletes and mandates Oahu Interscholastic Association schools
 19 to complete an annual Title IX assessment to maintain their
 20 membership in the association; now, therefore,

21
 22 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 23 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
 24 Session of 2024, that this body hereby recognizes ASHLEY BADIS,
 25 ALEXIS BADIS, ABIGAIL POTHIER, and TATIANA ARTEAGA as
 26 trailblazers for gender equality and equity in Hawaii high
 27 school sports and commends them for their efforts in bringing
 28 change to James Campbell High School athletics so that future
 29 female athletes may be able to pursue opportunities without
 30 limitations.

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33 OFFERED BY:



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