



## SPORT EQUITY

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Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Ann H. Kobayashi  
Council Chair and Presiding Officer  
Honolulu City Council  
530 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: **Amend Bill 10** (2020)

Dear Chair Kobayashi,

Sport Equity works to end gender discrimination in professional athletic competitions held on public land, public roadways and in public facilities.

We support gender equity for sports activities as a requirement of a park use permit. We respectfully request that the City Council remove loopholes from Bill 10 to better support equality in **professional sports**.

**Section 2 is not consistent with federal and state civil rights laws.** Exceptions (i), (ii) and (iii) provide a way out for athletic competition organizers that will likely result in more gender discrimination in **professional sports**. Please remove all exceptions underlined below.

(A) *Gender Equity. The department of parks and recreation shall not give preferential treatment to requests for permits for male activities over permits for female activities. This requirement does not apply if:*

- (i) *The sports activity is limited to one gender;* [PLEASE NOTE: When a gendered category is prohibited from a competition athletes are denied an opportunity to

earn money and ranking points required to qualify for the Olympics. For this reason, professional sports competition organizers applying for park permits should not be allowed to exclude a gendered category from competition.]

- (ii) The rules governing a particular sports activity expressly prohibits the participation of a particular gender; and [NOTE: Please don't allow gender discrimination in professional sports competitions held on city/county park land.]
- (iii) Permits are made available on an equal basis for a similar activity with participants of another gender or to participants of all genders. [NOTE: It's much simpler to prohibit gender discrimination in all competitions. As is currently the case, this exclusion would result in fewer opportunities for women athletes. It would also be difficult to track and enforce. Permitted events are sometimes canceled; will the parks department keep track of the number of men's competitions vs. women's competitions that take place annually? How would the city ensure the same number of women's competitions and men's competitions?]

We support the inclusion of women in all professional surf competitions. We agree with the letter from the Committee for Equity in Women's Surfing submitted on Feb 18, 2020 to the Honolulu City Council regarding Bill 10. See attached.

Please amend Bill 10.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sabrina". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the word.

Sabrina Brennan  
Founder, Sport Equity

Copy: Karen Tynan, CEWS Founding Counsel



## COMMITTEE FOR EQUITY IN WOMEN'S SURFING

Website: [surfequity.org](http://surfequity.org)

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Tuesday, February 18, 2020

Chair Ikaika Anderson and Councilmembers  
Honolulu City Council  
530 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: **Concerns Regarding BILL 10-2020**

Dear Chair Anderson,

The Committee for Equity in Women's Surfing supports amending BILL 10-2020.

Please amend BILL 10-2020 to require the inclusion of a women's division and a men's division in all professional surfing competitions held on Oahu.

All sports competitions held solely on land, property, or facilities owned by the City and County of Honolulu and any event that awards prize compensation to competitors shall require as a condition of a permit that the event have gendered categories and the prize compensation for each gendered category be identical at each participant level.

Increasing the number of events and the number of awards for women, as well as offering equal prize money, is the only way to achieve meaningful equity in competitive sports.

Thank you,

Keala Kennelly, Co-Founder  
Paige Alms, Co-Founder  
Bianca Valenti, Co-Founder  
Andrea Moller, Co-Founder  
Sabrina Brennan, Co-Founder

Copy: Karen Tynan, CEWS Founding Counsel