

SPORT EQUITY

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Wednesday, January 29, 2020

Chair Ikaika Anderson and Councilmembers

Honolulu City Council

530 South King Street

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Sabrina Brennan's speech in support of Resolution 20-12

Thank you for the opportunity to address the council.

I'm Sabrina Brennan, co-founder of the Committee for Equity in Women's Surfing and the founder of Sport Equity. I also serve as a Harbor Commissioner in San Mateo County, California.

Today, I'm speaking as an advocate not as a Harbor Commissioner. I'm advocating for an end to gender discrimination in professional athletic competitions held on public land, public roadways and in public facilities.

I respectfully ask the City Council to support gender equality in professional sports by voting for Resolution 20-12.

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.

I support equal access, equal playing time and equal pay for all athletes in professional sports competitions held on land, property, roadways or facilities owned by the City and County of Honolulu and the State of Hawai'i.

On Oahu there are no Women's Qualifying Series surf competitions and five Men's Qualifying Series competitions. Today, the Volcom Men's Pro QS is running at Pipeline at Eehukey Park and yesterday another Men's QS event finished at Sunset.

- Including a women's division and men's division in all surf competitions would correct gender discrimination. This could be achieved by changing permits to require the inclusion of 2 gendered categories in surf competitions.
- The Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) recently granted the World Surf League \$100,000.
- Why is the HTA funding a sports league that has a track record of gender based discrimination without first getting a commitment to correct the problem?

Please vote to support Resolution 20-12.

Thank you