

Rochester, NY – Congresswoman Louise Slaughter (NY-28) today encouraged her colleagues in Congress to remain vigilant in their support of girls in high school sports on the 25th Annual National Girls and Women in Sports Day.

Slaughter, who has introduced H.R. 458, the High School Athletics Accountability Act, pointed to statistics showing high school girls still receive fewer opportunities to play sports than high school boys.

“While we have made significant strides towards equity in athletics, we must continue to monitor our progress and ensure that our nation’s young women have the rights and opportunities they deserve,” said Slaughter. **“I want to remind everyone that on National Girls and Women in Sports Day, high school girls still receive 1.3 million fewer opportunities to play sports than high school boys. It’s high time we corrected this inequity.”**

Federal law requires colleges to make gender equity in sports information publicly available each year, but high schools are not required to disclose this data, making it difficult to ensure fairness at the secondary school level.

The High School Athletics Accountability Act requires that high schools report basic data on the number of female and male students in their athletic programs and the expenditures made for their sports teams.

“Better information can help high schools and parents of schoolchildren foster fairness in athletic opportunities for both girls and boys,” said Slaughter. **“Ultimately, this is about expanding the opportunities of girls and women to play sports and live physically**

active lives.”

Slaughter, who first introduced the High School Athletics Accountability Act in 2004, is a longtime champion of women's rights. As former Co-chair of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues Slaughter has spearheaded bills in Congress to address the sexual assault of women in the military and the promotion of equal opportunity under Title IX.

Slaughter constantly fights for the equality and rights of women, calling for awareness and action both in the U.S. and abroad. For more on Slaughter's work on women's rights, [click here](#)

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