

Dear Senator Rarick

My name is George Beatty and I am former University of Minnesota gymnast, four time letter winner, two time U of M Graduate (BS in Natural Resources and Mechanical Engineering), and current resident of the Twin Cities Metro Area . I am writing to support the public hearing your committee has scheduled for Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 1 pm to hear testimony regarding the three dropped sports at the University of Minnesota. I have been angered and disappointed since the decision to drop these sports was first proposed by Athletic Director Mark Coyle at the 9/11/20 U of M Board of Regents meeting. As a transplant from New Jersey the U of M is where I met my best friends, my now wife, and found what is now and always will be my home in the Twin Cities. I can truly say the U of M and gymnastics team had an immeasurable impact on my life and it's disappointing to think others may not have the same opportunity in the future.

The hearing on February 15 is extremely important to me, please do not cancel it as I have heard that some are trying to get the hearing canceled.

I plan to attend this hybrid hearing (in-person and/or zoom). I am following very closely what comes next, especially any positive movement toward transparency of the use of taxpayer money for higher education and benefits to student athlete programs (specifically the reinstatement of Men's gymnastics, indoor track, and tennis).

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

George E. Beatty
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