

Chair Hambley, Vice Chair Patton, Ranking Minority Member Brown, and Members of the House Civil Justice Committee,

I am writing this testimony in support of House Bill 369, the Ohio Fairness Act. I am a senior at The Ohio State University. I am in the midst of applying for graduate school to be an audiologist. I spend a lot of time being afraid of the future.

I am, among the other things that make me who I am, a gender non-conforming lesbian – the kind people give weird looks to on the bus sometimes. A lot of my fear stems from this. There is a very real hatred that some people hold towards queer people and we live with the knowledge that we will spend our lives navigating that hatred. The fact that we aren't protected from that hatred by the law is also incredibly unhelpful, to say the least. No one deserves to live in fear of getting fired or evicted just for being who they are.

You have the power to protect us from these fears by passing House Bill 369, the Ohio Fairness Act. Be kind.

Thank you for your time.

Jane Hulse