

Testimonial Opposing the “Save Adolescents from Experimentation” Act, House Bill 454

Author: Peter Zweber

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Dear Chairwoman Manchester,

My name is Peter Zweber. My wife and I live in Centerville, Ohio with our two daughters. I work as a defense contractor supporting the mission being executed at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. The purpose of this testimonial is to oppose the “Save Adolescents from Experimentation” Act, House Bill (HB) 454. As a father, I can see that my family would be deeply impacted if HB 454 passes.

Two major issues exist within HB 454 which causes me to oppose the bill. They are prohibiting medical personnel, public or private, from helping minors transition and the requirement that school nurses, counselors, teachers, principals, or other staff or officials tell parents about conversations they have regarding a minor’s gender dysphoria. Without clear medical evidence to the contrary, medical decisions are best handled by medical professionals and not elected officials without medical experience or expertise. The requirement for school officials to tell parents about a minor’s possible gender dysphoria has the real potential for causing harm to the minor from an unsupportive and potentially hostile parent. The source of fault would be on the members of this committee if a single minor is harmed based on the response of the parent or guardian if this bill passes.

It is because of these reasons, and others not stated here, that I request that you and the rest of the Families, Aging, and Human Services Committee oppose HB 454 and prevent its progression through the Ohio legislative process. Thank you for your consideration regarding this testimonial.

Sincerely,

Peter Zweber, Ph.D.