

Ash Deering

Chair Manchester, Vice Chair Cutrona, Ranking Member Liston, and members of the House Families, Aging, and Human Services Committee, thank you for this opportunity to voice my opposition to House Bill 454.

I am a minor who has lived in a very unaccepting family. While claiming to be, they have screamed at me for cutting my hair and telling me I will never be a real man or my idea of being trans masc is all just because of the internet. They are by far not the worst parents a trans person could ever deal with, I am still afraid of what could happen if I ever did officially ask them to refer to me with my chosen name and pronouns. So while I am not in any form of therapy as we speak, I am absolutely terrified at the idea of being outed to my family simply because I am trans. I cannot understand why your idea of 'helping' trans kids is by putting them into possibly horrible family situations simply for questioning ideas of being trans. Withholding forms of hormones or surgeries as well will only make all trans children suffer more. Please deny House Bill 454. This will only cause more suffering for the people who require this help. I hope you can think about this carefully and make a good, smart decision.

I urge you to oppose HB 454 and protect our state's youth.