

**Kathryn Moir**

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.

My name is Kathryn Moir. I am a recent college graduate and have lived in Ohio all my life - I now work in Columbus full-time. I am strongly opposed to House Bill 454, preventing transgender youth from receiving proper medical care. Our great state's youth population deserves better than what this bill means for their future. My younger sibling Alex has just recently begun his transition. Alex is attending university full-time to become a clinical psychologist with the goal of earning a license to help other teenagers and young adults who struggle with their identity. We also have been helping care for our mom, as our family lost our other mom this summer to cancer. Alex is kindhearted, whip-smart, accepting, and has an extremely bright future. His identity as a trans person should not define that future in the state that raised him. Alex's gender identity is NOT the concern of this state or its government. People like Alex will grow up, hopefully decide to stay in Ohio rather than leave for another place with more accepting, future-minded policies, and contribute to a stronger Ohio. They will build human infrastructure with their empathy, boost the economy by giving the next generation of Ohioans a place to raise a family where they feel accepted, and give this swing state a more diverse perspective as the world changes. I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this [harmful / dangerous / embarrassing / etc.] bill. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

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