

Elizabeth Cox

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 the parent of a transgender child. I am also a physician practicing in Ohio. I believe, and data shows, that in passing this bill, you would be contributing to the suffering and death of many children and their families in Ohio. If you had passed this bill when my child needed puberty blockers to stop a process that was causing pain, my entire family would have suffered. We have the ability to move out of this state, and that is the plan this year, due to Ohio's political climate. My only regret will be leaving behind so many people to suffer at your hands. Lawmakers ignoring the overwhelming consensus in the medical community, along with children and their families, in order to further such a partisan and unsupported policy is reprehensible.

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