

## Ohio House Bill 467 - Deadnames in Candidacy Forms

Hello, my name is Luc Marotti, and I am a transgender resident of Ohio who has undergone a legal name change in the state of Ohio. My legal change of name was approved in September of 2022, but was certainly not a cure-all for name related issues. Due to previous involvement in school programs and having my name registered with previous institutions with no way of change, my deadname will pop up with regularity. Not only does my deadname cause great internal anguish for me, as I am not that person anymore and I'd rather not dwell on what kind of state I was in at that time, it also causes confusion for people around me. I changed my name among my peers over two and a half years ago, to the point where nearly everyone has forgotten that I changed my name in the first place. Whenever it happens to appear, no one processes that I am being referred to, because it is simply not my name. Disclosing deadnames merely causes confusion, as people do not make the connection between a person and their old name, only a person and the name they actually use. Using a person's chosen name is not only euphoric for the person in question, but is common societal decency. There would be no reason to reasonably call a cis person by a different name, so there is not reason to call a trans person by any name other than their own. In order to eliminate confusion for voters and other candidates, transgender political candidates should not be required to disclose their deadnames when applying for candidacy.