

Hello House Higher Education Committee,

I am a former higher education LGBTQ resource professional living in Columbus. For over 5 years, I worked closely with students at one of the state's top universities for LGBTQ inclusion. I know first hand the positive impact of having a supportive educational environment.

LGBTQ and specifically transgender students in Ohio should not have to suffer through their K-12 education. It is regressive to ignore established federal guidance on Title IX. It is dangerous to out trans students to their families who may not be supportive of them. It is discriminatory for trans students to not have the ability to compete in sports, a source of community for many young people.

If allowed to take root, HB 6 will have a direct negative impact on the health and life trajectory of LGBTQ students. Ohio's schools are responsible for safely educating all young people, not for taking away their right to be who they are. Please reject this discriminatory bill and protect LGBTQ students.

Sincerely,
Sunny Era