

Letter in Opposition of House Bill 183

Dear Representative Lear Representative Bird and The House Higher Education Committee,

I hope this letter finds you well. My name is Patrick Timmins and I am a resident of the great state of Ohio. I write to communicate my conviction that House Bill 183 is detrimental to the interests of Ohio families, communities, and places of learning. I understand it may be your intent to protect folks who are answering the call of nature. However, this is a solution in search of a problem.

If you are seeking to protect vulnerable Ohioans I urge you to consider members of the trans community:

- one in three trans people already limit food and drink to avoid using public restrooms
- trans people are 4X more likely to be victims of violent crime
- one in four trans K-12 students have been physically assaulted and one in seven have been sexually assaulted

This Bill simply brings national culture-war issues to Ohio and needlessly divides folks based on their beliefs without making anyone safer.

Representative Bird's own tagline on his Ohio House of Reps website indicates his commitment to "limited government", THIS is an example of an issue best left to individual families, towns, and schools. Enforcement of this bill would be fraught for schools and people who are just trying to use the facilities. While we may come down on different sides of this issue, I appreciate your service to the state of Ohio.

Thank you again for your consideration of my testimony on this issue.

Sincerely,

Patrick Timmins