

## House Bill 183 Opponent Testimony for October 11, 2023

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Name: Paterson Gauntner

Address: 6800 Fir Ave.

Representing: Myself

Dear Committee,

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony. I'm trans and nonbinary. Most people assume I'm a man from the way I look, but I have an "F" on my birth certificate. The bill you are considering would force me to use the Women's bathroom at Tri-C, where I take French.

Even before medically transitioning, people would assume I was a man based on the way I looked. Back in those days I used to generally use the women's restroom. I've had women scream upon seeing me in the women's room. I very frequently have been told, "You're in the wrong one." I've twice been followed into a restroom by armed security. This is frightening for me.

I'm a human being, a parent of two small kids, and a person of faith. Forcing me to use the women's restroom is harmful to me and doesn't benefit anyone.

Please do not pass this bill.

Thank you.

Paterson Gauntner

**Photo: My daughter and I working on house projects together. Please do not force me to use the Women's restroom.**

