

Good evening Chairman Lipps:

I am writing tonight as a concerned parent. I like many other parents want to be what is best for our children. So many of us raise our kids to be just that kids. To enjoy their childhood, be good people and to be kind to everyone. But as I read this bill I'm alarmed by how many people want to step in to my home and make decisions for me and my child, to tell me how to parent. Gender affirming care saves lives! It's a fact!

My daughter is on the spectrum and has sensory disorder. So when she turned 9 and realized her body was changing it was a shock for her both mentally and physically, probably more so than other kids. Once she started menstruating that was when her brain couldn't quite process what was going on. I sat at home everyday worried, was she changing her sanitary pad enough, was she having cramps, were people making fun of her for going to the bathroom more than others. One day she continued to have a cycle for over 30 days. I immediately took her in and met with pediatric gynecologists. To which they prescribed her a hormone that would help stop her cycle until we could regulate it or find out why her brain wasn't sending signals to stop the bleeding. Do you know how she would feel if one day this drug was no longer available since it alters her bodies biological function to menstruate? It would devastate her! She just wants to be a kid, play outside with her friends, be happy and enjoy her life. That's what this bill is trying to take away from these children! That joy of just being a kid and being happy.

I thank the committee for their time.

I've attached my witness information form as well.

Thank you,
Brittnee Graves