

**Opponent Testimony for Bill 68
Health Policy Committee
May 24, 2023**

Nancy Burkle

Chairman Lipps, Vice Chair Stewart, Ranking Member Liston, and members of the Health Policy Committee,

I am a mother, a grandmother of a transgender granddaughter and a former teacher. I urge you to vote NO on HB68. Most people of my generation never gave gender affirming care a thought. We never even discussed it. This is new territory for me and for many of my generation. I have learned so much from my beautiful transgender granddaughter. I have educated myself about the benefit of gender affirming care. The passage of HB68 would be harmful to all transgender youth and their families.

The well-being of all transgender youth is at risk. It is the responsibility of parents and well-trained medical professionals to make decisions concerning the care of these children, not the responsibility of legislators. HB68 is an infringement on the right of parents and medical professionals to make appropriate decisions for each individual. It is a denial of basic human rights. Vote NO on HB68!

Medical decisions are not taken lightly. Medical treatment of any kind is not the right or responsibility of legislators. Gender affirming care is just one of these decisions. Parents along with medical professionals i.e. pediatricians, psychologists, are best equipped to make these decisions. I am urging you to vote NO on HB68.

Thank you.