

My daughter was 10 years old when she came out to me as transgender. As with many kids who are pushing boundaries, I assumed it was just another manifestation of her growth. She continued in therapy and after a year, she proved it wasn't just a phase. When she was 11 she began to socially transition, using she/her pronouns. When she was 13 she started on puberty blockers after she had socially transitioned and changed her name and after she had been seen by the teen clinic at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. She started a new school and her depressive episodes became fewer and less severe. When she was 14, she started on estrogen so she could develop like a cis-gendered teenage girl. My daughter is almost 17 now. She has developed like a young woman. The kids in her school know her only as a girl. To take the decision for her medical care out of the hands of her care team, who have known her for five years, and place it in the hands of the government, who haven't known her for five seconds, is criminal. She would have to detransition and go through an abrupt male puberty, something that would be life-threatening to her mental state. For a party that champions small government, you have an awfully suspicious concern about what is going on in my daughter's pants. Stay in your lane. Vote NO on HB68.