

WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: 05/23/23

Name: Micahael R. Kurtz

Are you representing: Yourself Organization

Organization (If Applicable): _____

Position/Title: _____

Address: 6281 Summerville Lane

City: Liberty Township State: OH Zip: 45011

Best Contact Telephone: (513) 863-4433 Email: mkurtzud@gmail.com

Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes No

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): HB68

Specific Issue: Opposing HB 68--WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Are you testifying as a: Proponent Opponent Interested Party

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes No

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? WRITTEN TESTIMONY

Please provide a brief statement on your position:

I urge the Ohio House Public Health Policy Committee to allow medical professionals and families to make their own informed decisions about health care. Medical care for gender dysphoria is **not** dangerous. House Bill 68 is dangerous.

See attached testimony.

Michael R. Kurtz
6281 Summerville Lane
Liberty Township, OH 45011
513-863-4433

May 23, 2023

Representative Lipps, Chair
Ohio House Public Health Policy Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43215

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

I have been on a long journey. Here's the short version of my story. My child told my wife and me that she was transgender. We thought she was confused, mistaken, or perhaps going through a phase. We talked. We cried. We prayed. We sent her to counseling, and we went to counseling as a family. We talked to doctors, and we did research. And we listened.

It was a long, hard journey as a parent. But we loved her fiercely. We wanted what was best for her. We did not make any rash decisions. And we are convinced that treating her gender dysphoria was the right thing to do. These kinds of medical decisions should not be made by politicians. Families should have the freedom to work with medical professionals to provide life-saving, evidence-based care for their children.

Our daughter wanted to end her life. She is now a thriving, happy 22-year-old with a full-time job, making a difference in our community. I am so proud of her and her bravery. House Bill 68 would not keep kids safe. It would prevent families from having the resources to navigate their journey and come out on the other side in a better place.

Sincerely,
Michael R. Kurtz