

Opponent Testimony for HOUSE BILL 68
House Public Health Policy Committee
6/13/23

JOCELYN HARPER, K-12 EDUCATOR

Chairman Lipps, Representative Stewart, and members of the House Public Health Policy Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is JOCELYN HARPER. I am an educator in the state of Ohio with 10 years of experience and I wish to express concern regarding House Bill 68 and the potential negative impact it may have on both cisgender and trans youth..

As a K-12 educator, I connect with many youth daily who depend on gender affirming care. This ban would not only impact their access to such care, but places them at greater risk for depression and suicide. Additionally, this ban compromises the health care privacy of all youth (both trans and cisgender) as health care decisions should be left to doctors and patients.

Again, the purpose of my testimony is to advocate for the protection of students and a respect for their privacy. I'm asking the committee to reconsider this harmful legislation.

Thank you for your time,

Jocelyn Harper