

Chairman Lipps, Vice-Chair Stewart, Ranking Member Liston, and Members of the Public Health Policy Committee, thank you for allowing me to submit testimony opposing HB 68, a bill that would ban health care for transgender youth.

As the parent of a transgender daughter, it breaks my heart to see my state flirting with such backwards and bigoted legislation. All peer-reviewed research, and every reputable group of medical and psychological professionals dealing with transgender youth, supports gender-affirming care — it is literally life-saving. If this bill becomes law, the result will be miserable and dead transgender kids. It does the exact *opposite* of protecting children; it endangers children, and the most vulnerable children at that. Families with trans children are currently fleeing Texas and Florida because of the hateful legislation those states have enacted. Please don't jump off the same cliff.

Vote NO on HB 68, for the sake of all that is good and decent in Ohio.