

**Opponent Testimony for HB68  
Government Oversight Committee  
December 6, 2023**

**F. Smith**

Chair Roegner, Vice Chair Antani, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson, and members of the Government Oversight Committee:

I am the mother of 2 children living in Richland County, Ohio. I teach at a local school and my husband works in manufacturing. Our family takes swim lessons at the local YMCA. I recently joined a local committee to improve the city. Each day, we contribute to our beloved community.

If HB68 passes, we will move out of Ohio within the year.

One of our children is transgender. Not every parent has a transgender child, but every parent would do whatever it takes to protect their child – including making sure they have access to healthcare. If HB68 passes, then the only way our family can protect our child is to move out of the state.

Moving would be a great hardship. My husband's background in business and my experience teaching allow us to consider that heart-wrenching option. But there are so many more families like ours without the means or flexibility to move.

Please keep Ohio safe for families like mine and vote no on HB68.