HB 68 Ohio's Ban on Gender-Affirming Care and Trans Youth in Sports Wednesday December 6, 3:00 pm Ohio Statehouse, South Hearing Room

Chair Roegner, Vice Chair Antani, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson and members of the Senate Government Oversight Committee my name is Brogan, I want to testify about HB 68.

I know many people who can and will be affected in very awful ways if this bill is passed. First of all, of course trans youth should not be pushed back and silenced in the least bit, and it is very horrendous to think that some people agree with this and I hope most of you don't agree with HB 68 already.

I alone have not experienced any discriminatory behaviors and am not trans but have seen and understood what goes on with rude and ill intentioned actions done by those who don't understand and are ignorant to what being trans is. It isn't a trick to cheat in sports or a mental illness, it's what a person truly believes they are, it's what they feel makes them comfortable and you should accept that. You probably don't like when someone insults you or something you enjoy being right? Then it should be the same for anyone else in the world.

These bills can take away things that make them happy in life and can ruin their lives. Sports have always been important to the lives of many people for generations, could you imagine just being stopped and told you don't get to do your sport whatever it is anymore? That sounds quite awful doesn't it? Sports offer a place of belonging and a support system. They help kids make friends.

Also, denying someone healthcare is very detrimental. If you could imagine you or a good friend of yours was denied healthcare in a dangerous situation? Or even yourself? There are so many negative results without access to medical resources you need.

I would like to thank the committee for taking time to hear and consider this and I hope you will agree with me and all others who say to vote against House Bill 68.

Sincerely, Brogan Geauga County, Oh