

## **Opponent Testimony: House Bill 68**

My name is Robin Boggs, and I am a mom of a 21-year-old transgender son. He came out at age 13 and has been living his authentic life ever since. I have kept up with research and have been involved with this population as an advocate for eight years. This population already deals with being oppressed, misunderstood, and discriminated against. House Bill 68 blatantly puts discrimination into law. It takes away parental rights to make medical decisions for their child. How is that fair when you consider every other parent gets to make medical decisions for their child based upon a medical expert's advice? Why is this any different? Additionally, it takes away the medical authority of doctors who are practicing medicine ethically with gender-affirming care. Before a minor can get gender-affirming care, they are carefully evaluated by a psychiatrist, a therapist, and a medical doctor. The minor's medical and physical well-being is taken into consideration. They review the whole picture as they would for any medical procedure they recommend for a minor. The American Medical Association has approved gender-affirming care. Politics have no business in the ethical practice of medicine. There is already a medical board for that. Please vote NO on HB 68. The damage it could do to a population that already faces social stigma, bullying, and discrimination is something that should be taken into high consideration.

Thank you for paying attention to this matter.

Sincere regards,

Robin Boggs