



Akron Council Ward 1 Representative Fran Wilson

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Rep. King (R-84), Williams (R-44), and the House Judiciary Committee:

I represent Ward 1 in Akron, Ohio. Ward 1 is home to 18,000+ Akronites and is the proud host of LGBTQIA+ events and community gathering spaces. Our district is colorful, joyful, and vibrant because of our Queer community and our fierce allies.

As an Out, Queer, Non-Binary elected official in the Buckeye State, I am vehemently opposed to the ridiculous, un-educated, and dehumanizing acts by our state officials against my community and my LGBTQIA+ neighbors.

Ohio House Bill 249 of the 136th General Assembly, termed the “Indecent Exposure Modernization Act” seeks to expand the existing policy around indecent exposure and amend sections 2907.09, 2907.39, and 4301.25 of the Revised Code.

This bill holds a façade of protecting children, while criminalizing gender non-conformity and human expression in clothing, makeup, prosthetics, and more. The legislation defines ‘adult cabarets’ by adding restrictions on “[p]erformers or entertainers who exhibit a gender identity that is different from the performer's or entertainer's biological sex using clothing, makeup, prosthetic or imitation genitals or breasts, or other physical markers.”

Vote no on H.B. 249.

/ Fran Wilson