

June 5, 2025

The Honorable Jerry C. Cirino, Chairman

Senate Finance Committee

1 Capitol Square

Columbus, Ohio 43215

Thank you for this opportunity to provide written testimony on H. B. No. 96. I am testifying in opposition to the redefinition of legal sex included in this budget bill. This is a direct attack on trans, nonbinary, and intersex Ohioans and has no place in a budget bill. This is a cruel, unnecessary move that erases the identities of your constituents and puts them at greater risk of discrimination, harassment, and violence.

Ohioans with updated birth certificates would be out of compliance with federal Real ID laws, punishing both current residents and Ohioans who have moved out of state simply for having been born here. This will have a chilling effect on people moving to Ohio, working in Ohio, and raising families in Ohio out of fear for their children's futures.

Please reject these cruel and unnecessary provisions in the budget.

Thank you,

Jean Zoller