

To whom it may concern:

I'm writing to oppose the inclusion of language concerning legal sex included in the proposed Ohio budget, HB96. My opposition stems mainly from the points included below:

- The proposed language surrounding legal sex is **outside the scope of the budget**, and there is no reasonable justification for addressing this controversial civil rights matter in this context when other legislative action, or better yet, allowing it to be decided by the people via a ballot measure would serve just as well.
- The proposed language surrounding legal sex/biological sex represents governmental overreach. **Governmental interference in such a personal issue requires an extraordinarily compelling rationale.** No reasonable person can conclude that the existence of transgender people presents such a dire threat as to necessitate the state's prying into this matter. **Thousands of intersex and transgender Ohioans have led fruitful, productive lives for many decades without any demonstrable harm to the public good.**
- The proposed language surrounding legal sex is gratuitously demeaning and disruptive to the lives of thousands of intersex and transgender citizens. **This will likely lead to an increase in suicides among this population.**
- The proposed language surrounding legal sex may forcibly "out" transgender and intersex Ohioans, **creating an unnecessary potential for violence and harassment.**
- The proposed language surrounding legal sex does not accurately reflect the consensus view on these issues. **The average Ohioan does not expect or desire a transgender person who has undergone medical transition to be forced by the government to conform to gender norms** of their birth sex, or to participate in society as a member of their birth sex.
- The proposed language surrounding legal sex **will cause some Ohioans to leave the state** for sanctuary. This includes not just transgender and intersex people, but also their families, incomes, and businesses. This language will also discourage those who do not share the sanctimonious values of its authors from moving to this state.

Please consider opposing this language in HB96. Ohio can remain strong without its legislature appointing itself the final arbiter of gender. Please leave this matter between the Creator and his creatures. At long last, let the state attend to more substantive issues.

God Bless,

Allison Ozinga