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The Ohio House of Representatives  
77 S. High St.  
Columbus, Oh 43215

RE: HB245

I am writing to encourage support for the bill introduced by Representatives King and Williams. The Adult Entertainment industry is one that seeks to promote its own financial interests. Adult oriented performers and entertainers may come in different varieties, but their motivations remain constant. To reap the commercial benefits of tips and profit in exchange for lewd and salacious show content.

Any biological man or woman, who conduct live, sexually charged choreographed routines for promotional interests, is categorized as: stripper, exotic dancer, strip tease artist, lap dancer, or show girl- and is regulated by the state, as an Adult Entertainment business. I am unsure why then, female impersonators, who perform these exact routines, and for the same financial motivations- are held to a different standard. This seems an unequal application of the law. Exemption from compliance with law, based on identity status, should not be a valid argument.

There must be bipartisan support on this issue. Adult oriented businesses are prohibited by Ohio law (*ORC* § 2907.39) from permitting a minor on the premises of an Adult Entertainment Establishment. Yet, because this modern assortment of sexually explicit enterprise is not well categorized, it cannot be regulated as such. Thus, promoters of this industry may solicit sexualized content and ticket sales to children.

The state has a compelling interest in protecting the wellbeing and safety of children. A civilized society does not advocate children be an additional revenue stream for proceeds in sex culture. Therefore, I would urge you to consider this perspective, and vote yes on HB245.

Best Regards,

