Health Public Policy Committee Name HB 68 Opponent Testimony May 23, 2023

Dear Chairman Lipps, Vice-Chair Stewart, Ranking Member Liston, and Members of the Health Public Policy Committee,

HB 68 would diminish the rights of parents to make informed medical decisions on behalf of their children. If it becomes the case that parents cannot choose puberty blockers for their trans child, that will call into question whether parents have the right to make other medical decisions for their children, including the right to vaccinate (or not) and the right to give their child medications for diagnosed conditions such as ADHD. HB 68 would set a risky legal precedent for future legislators to remove a number of parental rights. Parents will want to raise their children in states where their parental rights and their ability to make decisions on behalf of their children are not at risk.

Angie Apple, Ohio mom of two children