

May 22, 2023

Dear Representative,

HB68 is a punitive action against a minority group, which will have no bearing on keeping children safe. As a father of a transgender son, the state government should have no say in my child's medical care. My job as a parent is to keep my children happy, healthy, and safe. This bill will violate my parental right to see the medical care I see fit for my son. Medical care should not be governed by morality, but based in medical science. Every legitimate medical community supports gender-affirming care. In the wake of "my body, my choice" in regards to being vaccinated during a pandemic for the sake of public health, this bill strips away that right for both my son and I. Medical decisions should be made and kept between the patient, parental guardian, and medical professionals. It is unconstitutional for you to intervene in MY child's medical decisions. This law would strip away insurance coverage for my child's mental and physical health, and you have no right restricting that medical care. This bill should not be about scoring political points or shaping a culture change, it should be about government protecting its constituents. This law would be the opposite of protection, the main purpose of government. Do not tread on me!

The loving father of a trans boy,

Michael David Arlinghaus