

Rep Click and House Committee:

The core of the Ohio Republican Party is "to enact policies that grow our economy, shrink government and protect our freedoms." This quote is taken directly from the Party's [website](#). However, that is not what this bill is doing - it is restricting the free market; expanding government; and taking away freedom from two groups.

This bill legislation **ADDS to the government** - creating a new law to enforce. It takes away parents' and doctor's **freedom** to make decisions about their children and their patients. And, as we have seen in other states (i.e. [Disney's \\$1 Billion](#) decision), passing this legislation can have a **grave economic impact** to Ohio's economy. In short, it does the exact opposite of the mission of the Republican Party.

Aside from diverging from your core values, I ask each and every one of the committee members here today - do you have a medical degree in pediatrics? Do you see patients on a regular basis? If not, how and why do you feel superior to the American Pediatric Association? The APA [supports](#) gender affirming care of adolescence. How are you qualified to take away a Doctor's freedom to practice what is in the best interest of their patient?

Moreover, [study](#) after [study](#) has shown that companies that embrace a culture of diversity have significantly higher revenue than their counterparts that do not. By passing this legislation you will be handcuffing Ohio's businesses who will not be able to provide a diverse place to live. To truly allow Ohio's businesses the biggest and best economic advantages you cannot pass this legislation. As a business owner this bill hampers my economic ability.

I urge you to vote down HB 68. The Bill does not live up to the core values of the Party, it removes parents and doctor's freedoms, and it stunts economic growth.

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GO BLUE!