

Testimonial Opposing the “Enact Ohio Save Adolescents from Experimentation Act”, House Bill 68  
Author: Peter Zweber  
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Dear Chairman Lipps,

My name is Peter Zweber. My wife and I live in Centerville, Ohio with our two daughters. I work as a defense contractor supporting the mission being executed at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. The purpose of this testimonial is to oppose the “Enact Ohio Save Adolescents from Experimentation Act”, House Bill (HB) 68. As a father, I can see that my family would be deeply impacted if HB 68 passes.

I oppose HB 68 because it is an unnecessary government encroachment on the patient-family-physician relationship and would prohibit medical personnel from assisting minors receive gender affirming care. Without clear medical evidence to the contrary, medical decisions are best handled by medical professionals and not elected officials, especially officials lacking medical experience or expertise. This bill contradicts the medical recommendations provided by the American Medical Association, American Academy of Pediatrics, and the Endocrine Society. I agree with Dr. Madara (CEO, Executive Vice President of the American Medical Association), in his 2021 letter to the National Governors Association, that legislation like HB 68 represents a dangerous governmental intrusion into the practice of medicine and will be detrimental to the health of transgender children across the country. The source of fault would be on the members of this committee if a single minor is harmed based on the response of the parent or guardian if this bill passes.

My family and I moved to Ohio in 2013. We are very happy here and are proud to call Ohio our home. If HB 68 becomes law, we will need to leave Ohio in order to obtain gender affirming care for my daughter. The move will also cause me to start a new career and prevent me from helping to support our country and the mission being performed at Wright Patterson Air Force Base.

It is for these reasons, and others not stated here, that I request that you and the rest of the Public Health Policy Committee oppose HB 68 and prevent its progression through the Ohio legislative process. Minors, with the support of their guardians, should be given the opportunity to live their best lives possible, which certainly includes the gender that best represents them. Thank you for your consideration regarding this testimonial.

Sincerely,

Peter Zweber, Ph.D.