

June 12, 2023

ATTN: Chair Lipps, Vice-Chair Stewart, Ranking Member Liston & members of the Public Health Policy Committee

RE: HB 68

Dear Members of the Public Health Policy Committee,

I am a mental health counselor and resident in the state of Ohio. I am writing in strong opposition to House Bill 68. This bill provides false information unsupported by medical, psychiatric, and psychological researchers and is dangerous for transgender and non-binary children in Ohio. Gender affirming care saves lives. Bills of this sort put a vulnerable population in greater jeopardy, and take away health care decisions from families and medical professions. As a practicing mental health profession, I ask you to oppose this dangerous and misleading bill. Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Susannah Coaston, Ed.D., LPCC-S