My name is Bridget McConaughy, and I am here opposing HB 8. I wish that my school had the resources that students today have. Unlike many of the students here I went to a boys only high school catholic high school. While there have been student organizations such as a local GSA, I never had the sort of support system in place to deal with my identity until I was an adult.

Nowadays kids can reach out to their classmates and trusted adults who may be safer for them to ask questions than their parents are. You have heard of the stories of abuse from many of the speakers today. Every lgbtq+ person deserves the ability to come out when they are ready, and no sooner.

Please vote no on HB 8.