

Opponent Testimony HB 68
Senate Committee on Government Oversight
December 5, 2023

Members of the senate Government Oversight committee,

I write to you today to ask that you vote No on HB 68. My name is Megan Amling, and I am a Master's Student at The Ohio State University College of Social Work. My family and I have lived in Ohio since 1952 and I am proud to oppose this bill alongside the many transgender children and adults that are a part of my community, and my family.

As a social work student, this bill will regulate and limit my ability to provide mental health care, going against the code of ethics for the National Association of Social Workers and the professional and clinical judgement of social workers in the state of Ohio. This bill targets transgender children in this state, and as a soon to be parent, I must ask that you respect and adhere to the perspectives of not only the medical communities (Coalition of Ohio's Children's Hospitals, National Association of Social Workers, The Ohio State Medical Association, The Ohio Psychological Association) but to the children and families that have spoken up against this bill, and whom I testify alongside of. After listening to Senator Click's sponsor testimony, I was ashamed and appalled at the rhetoric, reasoning, and targeting of queer and trans communities stated not only through the language of this bill but in the conversations around it.

I am filled with gratitude towards the transgender children sharing their stories in opposition to this bill. I will continue to stand alongside my friends, colleagues, and family in opposing this bill.

Megan Amling