

Opponent Testimony for House Bill 68
Senate Government Oversight Committee
12/5/2023

Chase Alexander Dyer (Chosen name: Freya)
Self

Chair Kristina D. Roegner, Vice Chair Niraj Antani, Ranking Member Paula Hicks-Hudson, and members of the Government Oversight Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Freya Dyer, and my pronouns are she/her. I am a twenty-three-year-old transgender woman. I'm in my 4th year of studying biomedical engineering at The University of Toledo, but I grew up in Upper Arlington. I am testifying my complete opposition to House Bill 68. This bill in no way serves the people of Ohio, and actively targets and disenfranchises an extreme minority.

I started hormone replacement therapy (HRT) in August of this year (2023). Immediately from the start, it balanced my biochemistry and I stopped having severe depressive episodes. Before HRT, I saw no future, no hope for myself nor for humanity as a whole. Now, I can imagine a future. I can be happy. I no longer feel like I don't belong in this world. This bill will take that away from me, and the happiness I bring to those around me. It will cause knock-on effects that prevent me from accessing life-saving medications and force my body to return to natal hormone levels, which is often "lethal".

This bill will begin the systematic destruction the transgender community and the LGBTQ+ community as a whole. It will also promote a gender binary to a toxic degree and increase scrutiny towards cisgender people as well. Cisgender people will get accused of being transgender (they already are!) and people will get murdered as a result. These are not outrageous extrapolations, this is already happening across the country.

I stand in opposition to House Bill 68 with every fiber of my being. Not only does it violate the United States Constitution, it violates the Ohio Constitution as well! This bill will be incredibly destructive to the LGBTQ+ community and to people who are not part of that community. I urge that you please consider my testimony and completely and permanently block House Bill 68 from proceeding to the Senate floor.

Thank you. I'm happy to answer any questions.