

Submitter: Ed Diehl
On Behalf Of: Anonymous
Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care
Measure: HB2002

I am writing in strong opposition to the (1) Gender-Affirmation Treatment and (2) Reproductive Health Services sections of House Bill 2002.

GENDER-AFFIRMATION TREATMENT

The prefrontal cortex of the human brain is not fully developed until approximately the age of 25. This part of the brain is responsible for projecting future consequences that result from current actions, as well as for overriding and suppression of socially unacceptable responses. So, children are literally unable to think how their actions today will affect their lives just a few years later.

Also, until the age of 18 children are not allowed to consume alcohol, smoke tobacco, get a tattoo, get married (without parent consent), serve in the military and do many other adult activities.

Based on the information above it makes ZERO sense that children, including teenagers, are put into a position when they can decide that they no longer need penises, breasts, reproductive function. Most of them are simply unable to fully understand what it means that they will never have biological children or they will never be able to nurse them, and that they will stay on medication for the rest of their life.

There is a growing army of de-transitioners, now adults and teenagers, who just a few years ago came across various unethical medical "professionals" who convinced them that medical transition to another gender is their best and only option, and that it will magically solve their emotional and psychological problems. These medical "professionals" received their money for their "service" and moved on, while these kids are now castrated, incapable of experiencing sexual sensations, unable to have biological children, they have their body permanently visibly damaged, and they have to depend on medication for the remainder of their lives.

At the same time, there are more and more research studies showing that between 64% and 98% of children with gender dysphoria will outgrow it by the age of 18 or so. Many of these children will end up being LGB-people and they will live their lives happily without having had their bodies butchered.

Please completely remove the section Gender-Affirmation Treatment from the Bill.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

Providing abortion - whether "emergency" or "non-emergency" - does not make sense as a mandatory requirement for an educational organization. Educational organization's only purpose is to provide academic education, that is all.

It does not make financial or logical sense that all students and their parents will have to pay extra for someone else's convenience, the service that has nothing to do with education and that only a few students will ever use, especially since these students can get this service from their medical provider.

Also, chemical abortion is not completely safe and it does convey known risks for women making it. Parents have responsibilities - legal or assumed - for their children until their age of 18. Therefore, parents must be informed if their teenage child requires medical treatment that may involve permanent damages to their health.

Please remove the mandatory requirement for the higher education organizations to provide abortion services to their students.