

Submitter: Melissa Ely

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2002

Not only do I oppose, I strongly oppose this bill. Children are impulsive and should not be allowed to be a boy one day and a girl the next. Human beings are born male or female and we do NOT know about long term effects of messing with the biology of our bodies. We as parents and adults do not need to accommodate every whim our children have especially if it permanently changes their bodies etc. This bill is advocating for gender affirming care.... then what? What happens when these children regret the choice they made? Then what.....when these children want to return to their biologic sex? Then what when the physical changes made don't "fix" the problem? Then what..... when the puberty blockers cause unknown damage to the children because those medications stop the body from doing what it was made to do? Then what.... when the children and young adults have to repeat surgeries because of complications that keep occurring due to the reconstructed genitalia? Then what when they look back at the adult in the room and say WHY?

We need to help our children be okay with the REALITY of the situation. If you are female you are female, you can be feminine female or masculine female or somewhere in between. And if you are male you are male, you can be a masculine male or a feminine male or somewhere in between. Every person was made perfect and to accommodate such drastic measures just reaffirms to the child/young adult they are broken. Should we listen to our children? , yes. Should we HEAR them? Yes. Should we help them? Yes but not by accommodating something when they don't fully understand the consequences of these actions. I am a mother, it is NOT my job to bend to and accommodate every desire of my children. It IS my job to guide them and help them become healthy, happy, productive members of society. I know happiness looks different to everyone but it should be based in reality and facts.

I want to reiterate first and foremost I am concerned about the longterm welfare of these children and young adults, however as a taxpayer I do NOT want my hard earned money going towards enabling these procedures to be performed on people, or puberty blockers, hormones etc. This was not the purpose of OHP. I do not want to be a party to what I view as damaging to them. Where will this stop? What happens when a person decides they will identify as a different species is the house going to legislate to surgically accommodate that? Crazy right?

In conclusion I STRONGLY OPPOSE THIS BILL