

Submitter:

Susan Woolliscroft

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4088

RE: House Bill 4088. 2026 Regular Session

To all concerned,

I wish to strongly support HB 4088. It is just as important to protect providers of health care as it is to protect the patients/persons receiving that care.

It has become obvious in the states that have either taken or threatened actions against providers is followed by an exodus out of state of these professionals. The result is a shortage of health care providers and reduced and/ or ineffective care for patients that can have tragic results.

I would like to share my personal experience in regard to gender affirming care. My partner of many years struggled with their gender identity. I did my best to support my partner, but it took quite a while to fully understand what they were experiencing. It's no secret that our society is cruel to transgender youth and adults. People often hide their identity for a very long time because they are very aware of the kinds of discrimination, hatred, and cruelty they will face. It is critical for transgender individuals to have access to supportive care, and it's important that the care be comprehensive. Counseling helps people navigate difficult situations and relationships and physicians provide care that is vital to self actualization.

In a healthy society we can celebrate each other's differences without feeling threatened by them. We can care about each other as humans and have compassion for one another. We need to protect the human right to transgender youth and adult healthcare, and the reproductive rights of all. Please support this important bill.