



Women's Declaration International

Testimony of Chrystal Brim
Before the Senate Judiciary Committee
House Bill 4088/4088A

OPPOSE

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My name is Chrystal Brim and I reside in the City of Portland, State of Oregon.

Women's Declaration International (WDI) is a global, nonpartisan group of volunteer women dedicated to protecting women's sex-based rights, based on the [Declaration on Women's Sex-Based Rights](#) (the Declaration), which has about 40,000 signatures globally in 160 nations. [Womens Declaration International USA](#), Inc. (WDI USA) is its U.S. chapter. Article 3 of the Declaration reaffirms the full reproductive rights of women and girls, including the right to be free from forced pregnancy. WDI USA supports a woman's unrestricted right to abortion on demand for any reason. Women continue to be [economically disadvantaged](#) and on [average](#) "spend about twice as much time with their children as fathers do." Lack of abortion access can destroy the economic quality of a woman's or girl's life and that of her existing children, as well as significantly risk her health or life.

Nonetheless, WDI USA opposes this bill. The Preamble to the Declaration states, "the inclusion of men who claim to have a female 'gender identity' into the category of women in law, policies and practice constitutes discrimination against women by impairing the recognition of women's sex-based human rights." Humans cannot change sex, and there is [no evidence](#) that hormone treatments and surgeries improve mental health outcomes. While WDI USA supports the right of girls under 18 years of age to access all aspects of reproductive healthcare, we oppose allowing minors to access puberty blockers, hormone treatments, or surgeries to disguise their sex, with or without parental consent. As stated in Article 9 of the Declaration, "Children are not developmentally competent to give full, free and informed consent to such medical interventions, which carry a high risk of long-term adverse consequences to the physical and psychological health of the child, and which may result in permanent adverse consequences, such as sterility. States should prohibit the use of such medical interventions upon children."

Puberty is a natural and necessary stage of development. To prevent it in pursuit of something impossible should not be permitted in law. The [adverse effects](#) of puberty-blocking Lupron include [seizures, bone loss, and mood disorders](#). Adverse effects of cross-sex hormones include [heart disease, cardiovascular damage, and deep vein clots](#). Proponents rely on the argument that medicalization can prevent suicides in minors who seek it, but there is [no evidence](#) of a link between medical interventions and a reduction in suicidal ideation.

In fact, the vast majority of children will outgrow discomfort with their sex if allowed to go through puberty. Most of these children become lesbian or gay adults. A [2021 study](#) using the largest

sample to date of boys clinic-referred for “gender dysphoria” showed that 88% desisted by their early 20s. Other studies show similar results.

Oregon should be a place for women and girls to receive comprehensive reproductive healthcare, including abortion. On the other hand, the state should neither legally protect nor permit unproven, dangerous medical procedures designed to disguise sex, particularly for children. Therefore, WDI USA urges you to oppose this bill. The two issues – the right to abortion access for all women and girls, and the right to deny one’s sex and disguise oneself accordingly – must be considered separately.

Chrystal Brim

Signatory, Declaration on Women’s Sex-Based Rights