Testimony on: HB 1399 Health Occupations - Cross-Sex Hormone Therapy for

Minors - Prohibition (Protect the Kids Act)
Committee: Health and Government Operations

Hearing Date: March 11, 2025

Position: Oppose

I oppose this bill because of the great and irreversible harm it will bring to transgender youth. I have spoken with many transgender people throughout the last fifty (50) years, starting in 1974 when a co-worker was transitioning to being a woman.

I cringe when I think of the harm this bill would have caused the people I know who transitioned when minors. They were deeply depressed and at high risk for suicide. Once the transitions started, their depression lifted and changed overtime to mental stability and even happiness.

Further, for people assigned male at birth who transition to female after puberty, the result is that their voice stays low and identifiably male. This is deeply distressful for many of them. I have heard several say they wish they had transitioned earlier.

There are numerous reliable studies that show the benefits of transitioning. ¹ The results consistently show meaningful mental health improvement. All of the major, reputable medical associations support it. Let's leave this decision to professionals, not politicians and citizens who lack the needed expertise.

I suggest people who support this bill seek and and meet people who happily transitioned during their young years and those who are distressed by having had to wait and do so later.

Please cause no such harm and reject this frightening, harmful bill

Respectfully,

Dorothy Broadman

¹ Psychology Today, Reviewed by Abigail Fagan, <u>The Evidence for Trans Youth Gender-Affirming Medical Care</u>, *January 24, 2022*