I am writing in opposition of House Bill 1254. I ask that you give this bill a Do Not Pass.

As a health care provider and an advocate for suicide prevention in our state, I feel this legislation is discriminatory and does not reflect the values of inclusion and compassion that our state should represent. Our transgender community is already at a much higher risk for suicide and self-harm and this bill will only increase that risk by denying them access to gender affirming care. This bill is also a huge government overreach into the doctor-patient relationship as well as the parent-child relationship.

Transgender people deserve to live as themselves in a state that respects and supports them.

Please oppose HB 1254.

Thank you, Dr. Derek Harnish