

Dear members of the Senate Human Services Committee,

My name is Mariah Ralston Deragon, and I am writing in strong opposition to HB1254. I respectfully ask that you VOTE NO on this bill.

I would point to the testimony of Dr. Amanda Dahl, a board-certified Pediatric Endocrinologist, who likewise strongly urges you to vote DO NOT PASS.

I would also point to testimony provided by transgender individuals themselves, and their families.

What this bill is trying to do, is ban life affirming medical care for an extremely vulnerable population. No one who pursues gender affirming care does so on a whim- it is usually after years of suffering, confusion, and isolation.

To deny access to these procedures and medications would be inhumane.

I trust that the ND senate will listen to medical professionals and the lived experiences of your constituents. Please join me in opposing HB1254.

Sincerely,
Mariah Ralston Deragon
Bismarck, ND