

**Senate Human Services Committee**  
**March 15th, 2023**  
**HB 1254- Testimony in Opposition**

Chair Lee and members of the Senate Human Services Committee, my name is Whitney Oxendahl and I am writing in opposition to HB 1254. I hope that if one of my three children or any of their friends comes out as transgender or nonbinary, they are accepted in North Dakota. If this bill is passed, it would cause kids to feel unwelcome and unsafe to live in our state.

I hope that you will choose to keep the state government out of medical decisions that should be made by transgender youth, their parents, and their medical providers. There are medical standards that are already followed in regards to gender-affirming medical care, and medical providers across the state have spoken out against this bill.

Please give House Bill 1254 a Do Not Pass recommendation. This bill is not about the safety of children. It only serves to make them feel unsafe to be themselves in North Dakota. Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony.