

As a trans person who grew up in the state of North Dakota, I experienced a large amount of discrimination and bullying in school there. I spent time in a psychiatric ward for my suicidal ideation when I was just 18, and that was long before any legislators chose to make it their life mission to craft laws specifically targeting me and people like me. Many trans students don't come out as transgender when they are in the public school system, but the lasting impact of your bigotry will harm them the rest of their lives. Suicidality in trans youth massively increases in states with youth sports bans, even if the bans only apply to four or five individual students.

The sponsors of this bill lack compassion and moral integrity, and if this bill passes, they should be made to watch the funerals of every trans child who commits suicide as a result of the intentional targeting of the trans community in North Dakota.

Thank you for your time,
Reed Eliot Rahrch