Members of the House Human Services Committee,

"My name is Patricia Burckhard and I reside in District 15. I am asking that you please render a DO PASS on House Bill 1254."

The meteoric rise in young people identifying as transgender is not an organic development due to an increase in cultural acceptance, but due to a social contagion spurred on by predatory, ideologically and financially-motivated adults who seek to undermine the parent-child relationship and promote the sexualization of children and teens under the guise of tolerance. This is turning young people into permanent medical patients and leading them down a path of sterilization, mutilation, and a myriad of serious health problems from taking cross-sex hormones. Pediatric medicine has been <u>hijacked</u> by activists, and the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics and WPATH should be dismissed as ideologically-driven pseudoscience.

Thank you for your consideration of this highly important matter and for your service to the state of North Dakota.

Patricia Burckhard