

Dear Senators, I am writing in opposition to HB 1301. This bill is a dangerous and harmful affront to the human rights of every North Dakotan this bill targets and every North Dakotan's ability to treat everyone with the kindness, dignity, and respect we all deserve. HB 1301 is discriminatory and aims to undermine the current standards of care for transgender individuals and is an effort to undermine all North Dakotan healthcare professionals the ability to do their jobs responsibly.

Additionally, HB 1301 section 23-52-03 proposes the ability for parents or next of kin the ability to bring wrongful death action against the health care provider or medical facility employing the provider if alleged to have violated section 23-52-02, but what about the children of North Dakota that would die due to the lack of the lifesaving healthcare services that HB 1301 intends to disallow? In 2022, 93% of transgender and nonbinary youth said that they have worried about transgender people being denied access to gender-affirming medical care due to state or local laws and nearly 1 in 5 transgender and nonbinary youth attempted suicide ([Trevor Project 2022 National Survey on Youth Mental Health](#)).

I firmly believe that HB 1301 would not protect North Dakotan youths, but rather further disenfranchise them from successful and prosperous futures. We all want the future generations of North Dakota to grow up happy, healthy, and hopeful to give back to their communities, but HB 1301 severely limits an entire population's ability to do so.

As a lifelong resident of North Dakota, I urge the committee to listen to the experts in the field and vote NO on HB 1301.