

Opposition of HB 1522

To whom it may concern,

HB 1522 is a mistake in one of the largest proportions.

The government is a public service. You are supposed to be passing bills and addressing issues that will help and support the people of the state you claim to be representing.

This bill is in opposition of that and designed purely to discriminate against an already marginalized and attacked minority. According to a June 2022 study of UCLA Williams Institute School of Law (<https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/publications/trans-adults-united-states/>) there are roughly 500 people age 13-17 that identify as transgender. When compared to the estimated ~779k residents (<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/ND/PST045222>) this bill is attacking .06% of the population of the state.

You are wasting time and resources to distract the populace from actual problems that the state is facing. The housing market and financial income of the people you've stated you want to help and protect are laughable. According to Fortune Builder, the average home in all of North Dakota is valued at \$278,322 (<https://www.fortunebuilders.com/north-dakota-real-estate-market/>). The average annual income per household is roughly \$68k, according to the Census Bureau (<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/ND>). Even before home expenses, it would take more than 4 years to save for a home. People are living paycheck to paycheck just to survive and you're more concerned about how to attack CHILDREN and make them even more fearful of the world.

You are actually contributing to the mental anguish of children and those that actually care about them.

You're incentivizing frivolous lawsuits against governmental agencies if a student requests to be called something different than they desire. Instead you should be addressing the problems with bullying in schools. Children and students are already ostracized enough by their peers as well as their parents. The fact that they need to fear the government as well is appalling.

You are doing damage to the state as a whole and are basically asking to not hold office again. Teenagers will be able to vote, and the fact you are actively trying to force them into poverty is abhorrent.

Sincerely,

Daniel Baumgartner