

Members of the House Human Services Committee,

My name is Kimberly Hurst and I reside in District 1. I am asking that you please render a do pass on House Bill 1522. North Dakota law should specify that “sex” does not mean “gender identity,” in contrast it means the biological state of being male and female that profiles at birth. Local schools should devise solutions that align with respect, privacy and safety of *all* students, not just those who have a perceived or expressed gender that is inconsistent with the student’s biological sex. The term “sex” is not obscure and should not be unilaterally redefined by local schools to appease a student’s perceived gender. By allowing local schools to adopt policies for transgender students and accommodate their preferred gender can lead to unintended consequences. For example, a biological male utilizing the same bathroom with a biological female not only relinquishes the privacy rights of the biological male, it also presents an opportunity for false accusations. Biological females also have valid concerns with their safety and privacy rights when allowing transgenders in private female-only spaces.

I am a mom of four boys. As a parent, I expect the state of North Dakota and the local schools to protect my children’s privacy rights when they are in school. Disregarding these rights should be unlawful. A student’s perceived sexual orientation or gender identity does not change a school's obligation to protect *all* of their students.

Safeguarding *all* student’s privacy rights should be the center point for local schools and the state of North Dakota. I urge you to support the passing of House Bill 1522.

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

Kimberly Hurst