

HB 1333

I speak in opposition to HB 1333. For the many reasons listed in other testimony for other bills targeting trans folks and others in the LGBTQIA+, this is yet another harmful bill that solves a problem that doesn't exist. Along with wasting the legislature's time, this bill is just another of in a long list that is based in fear of what people don't understand. There are 8 billion people in the world and not all of them will fit into the small, rigid boxes you try to create for them.

Here is my primary example of why this bill is just plain terrible. I sing in a men's community choir here in Minot that puts on a well-received Variety Show every year. Part of this show every year for the past many decades has included at least one man dressed in drag for part of this all-ages, family friendly show. To the best of my knowledge, it has never been a problem and has never corrupted anyone. It seems to me that this bill would make this, and other harmless shows like it, illegal.

Encourage the legislature to vote no against HB 1333 and the many others that hurt, discriminate against, and cause unnecessary harm against our LGBTQIA+ friends, family and fellow North Dakotans.

Rev. Ellery Dykeman