

68th Legislative Session

Representatives: S. Olson, D. Anderson, Christensen, Kasper, Koppelman, Prichard, and Steiner
Senator: Boehm

I am writing in opposition to HB #1474. As a North Dakota native and a mother of a transgender person I find this bill offensive and goes against statistical data collecting standards for the State of North Dakota.

How can the State of North Dakota collect data concerning the state's demographics but in collecting data, exclude the fact that some of the state's population is in fact transgender? Any data collecting which excludes anyone for any purpose is not depicting the state's demographics in a true and accurate manner.

My child is a human being living in the State of North Dakota. She deserves to be counted statistically just as anyone else. The fact that some of the legislators do not know or like transgender people has no relevance. The State of North Dakota isn't the GOP's playground and the GOP shouldn't be acting like the schoolyard bully, telling a sect of North Dakotans how they should and shouldn't identify themselves for statistical purposes.

The GOP has to accept people for who they are and not try to exclude or force people to be who they are not just to make these GOP members comfortable.

You can't erase a sect of people. Hitler tried and so did the KKK. Neither Hitler or the Clan succeeded in their attempt to erase people that they deemed as subhuman.

Being transgender people are not wrong for existing, evil for wanting to be who they are or even perverted. Just because the authors of this bill do not understand, like or agree with who transgender people are for the purpose of statistical work and accuracy, all people who live and work in North Dakota should be counted. All humans deserve to be seen, counted and are relevant, especially the marginalized.

I would like to know what the authors of this bill fear from transgender people. Why can't transgender people be counted just like any other demographic? If the authors of this bill get their way, what demographic is next?

Bills like this harms North Dakota's image and makes North Dakota look as backwards and unwelcoming to anyone who might want to move to North Dakota. What company would want to move or expand

their company to a state that refuses to progress with the times but in fact has regressed with the passing of such a bill as HB #1474.

If the legislators really wanted what's best for North Dakota, they will encourage diversity, accept people for who they are and say this loud and clear by voting DO NOT PASS on HB #1474.

Respectfully,
Kristie Miller

North Dakota Native, Resident and Proud Parent of Transgender Person