

House Bill 1522

Relating to gender identity and accommodations in schools

Dear Members of the Senate Human Services Committee,

My name is Shawna Grubb and I reside in District 35. I am writing to urge a DO PASS recommendation for HB 1522.

Why is this bill needed?

- Federal agencies have tried to force schools to grant access to sex-specific intimate facilities based on self-declared gender identity instead of biological sex.
- Students, particularly women and girls, have valid concerns about privacy and safety in intimate spaces, as well as about the equality of women under law. Allowing males to have access to female-only spaces completely disregards the safety and privacy of women and girls.
- Gender identity policies are unlawful under current Title 9 regulations. The term "sex" is not ambiguous and cannot be unilaterally redefined by schools to mean "gender identity."
- North Dakota law should specify that "sex" does not mean "gender identity," and local schools should devise solutions that respect the privacy and safety of all students, not just those who claim to have a victim status
- In a time when there is an extreme shortage of school staff, requiring staff to work in environments that require them to adhere to dangerous gender-identity affirming policies could risk more staff to quit teaching and subsequently, leave schools even more understaffed.

Thank you for your consideration and your service to the people of North Dakota,
Shawna Grubb

