I am writing in opposition of House Bill 1522. I ask that you give this bill a Do Not Pass.

As a healthcare provider and an advocate for suicide prevention in our state, I feel this legislation is discriminatory and does not reflect the values of inclusion and compassion that our state should represent. Our transgender community is already at a much higher risk for suicide and self-harm and this bill will only increase that risk. By not allowing our schools and teachers to respect our transgender students, this bill is a threat to the health and well-being of our North Dakota youth.

Transgender people deserve to live as themselves in a state that respects and supports them.

Please oppose HB 1522.

Thank you, Dr. Derek Harnish