

Senate Human Service Committee
March 15th, 2023 HB 1522
Testimony in Opposition

Dear Chair Lee and the members of the Senate Human Service Committee,

I'm writing to urge a "**Do Not Pass**" vote from the committee.

1. This bill takes away local control for schools to decide what policies work best for them. North Dakota has always prided itself on local control for schools and respect to school boards to govern education and policy.
2. This bill is only passing if the Supreme Court says so
 - <https://www.aclu.org/cases/grimm-v-gloucester-county-school-board>
3. The best practices for teachers are to use preferred pronouns according to the policy of every major education organization governing:
 - [School Boards](#)
 - [Principals](#)
 - [School Counselors](#)
 - [Teachers](#)
 - [High School Associations](#)
4. By clinical and survey data, preferred pronouns are important for student safety
 - [Survey data](#)
 - [Clinical data](#)
 - [School Climate Data](#) on reducing experiences of discrimination
 - [North Dakota LGBTQ+ School Climate Data](#)

While this bill in its current form does not compel teachers to misgender students like SB 2133, it would be unfortunate to limit districts from aligning their policies around best outcomes for students and with the consideration for student safety. It is for these reasons I urge a "Do Not Pass."

Thank you for your time, consideration, and service to our state,
Faye Seidler