

Dear members of the legislature,

I am writing to express my opposition to HB 1522, which seeks to restrict accommodations for transgender youth. This legislation is discriminatory, harmful, and goes against the fundamental values of equality and fairness that are at the core of our country.

Transgender individuals are already among the most vulnerable populations in our society, facing high levels of discrimination, harassment, and violence. This legislation only serves to further stigmatize and isolate them, while doing nothing to address the real issues that contribute to sexual assault against women and girls.

Statistics show that transgender people are not more likely to commit sexual assault than any other population. In fact, studies show that transgender people are more likely to be victims of sexual assault than perpetrators. Instead of creating a witch hunt against a vulnerable population, our legislators should be focusing on pragmatic solutions to protect women from assault, including funding for education and prevention programs, as well as supporting survivors.

Trans people need to know that they are loved and supported, regardless of the hateful bigots in legislature that have the audacity to attack the trans community while actively ignoring the many pragmatic solutions to protect women from assault. We must not forget that history does not look favorably on those who attack the rights of others.

Experts in the field of social work, therapy, and child advocacy are all united in their opposition to this legislation. It is shameful that our legislators would close their minds to these experts and instead rely on their own bigoted views.

For every woman, know that the state could be doing more to protect your kids from abuse, but they'd rather have a witch hunt against trans people. This legislation is a misguided attempt to restrict the rights and freedoms of transgender youth, and it must be opposed.

I urge you to listen to the voices of the transgender community and their allies, and to reject HB 1522. Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

James Lyons