

My name is Damian White Horse, and I'm a proud supporter of the LGBTQ+ community. This bill cannot be allowed to pass. It is nothing short of discrimination against the trans community. This bill completely infringes on their right to live their lives as they see fit. You are unjustly hurting them and prosecuting them for what can only be described as a bigoted witch hunt.

There is no precedent whatsoever for what you're doing here. It's just plain wrong. No one in the community is hurting anyone else by asking to be referred to by their preferred gender and pronouns. Gender dysphoria is a scientifically and medically recognized diagnosis with therapy and treatments that have helped thousands of transgender people. This bill attempts to deny that fact and would force people to suffer greater dysphoria, which will cause untold harm to the community. These individuals are simply trying to live their lives in the way that makes them the most comfortable, and for no reason you are trying to destroy that comfort. Not only that, but you're also imposing an outrageous fine on people whose lives already demand high costs like transitioning.

This fine is merely a tool to target the underprivileged that cannot afford it. This bill will do nothing but cause turmoil and possible deaths in the community, and the fact that no one seems to see that is nothing less than shocking. We must stop this now. If this bill is allowed to pass, what's to stop the government from imposing more baseless laws that infringe on people's ability to live their peaceful lives?

The fact that this bill is targeted towards a community that simply wants to be treated like regular members of society and left alone is proof enough of how horrifying this all is, and it must be stopped at all costs. This bill will only serve to further the discrimination against the trans community in public, such as in workplaces or just trying to use a public bathroom.

For these reasons listed I am adamantly opposed to SB 2199, the government has no right to control an individual's gender or gender expression, anymore than they have the right to govern what kind of shoes we wear, thank you for your time.