1/17/2023

Dear Chair Larson and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

My name is Aeon Axiom, my pronouns are xey/xem/xeirs and I have worked in and been a member of the Fargo community in North Dakota since I moved to Moorhead 15 years ago. We see the doctor there, attend events at Fargo Parks, and use the Fargo Public Library. The comradery I have found in the unity across the river has led me to make Fargo/Moorhead my home. Therefore, I'm writing this testimony to communicate my strong opposition for SB 2199, a bill to amend and reenact section 1-01-34 of North Dakota Century Code, relating to gender usage in North Dakota Century Code; and to provide a penalty. This is important to me because pronouns have nothing to do with DNA. Gender is a social construct that is intangible and not testable. To test someone's DNA to determine their sex at birth completely ignores and erases the existence of intersex people. It is also invasive and violates our basic human rights. It sets a precedent for trying to find and test humans to determine if they are trans. This dehumanizes us and creates a social spectacle that makes us the target for hate and violence. I am an individual with X on my birth certificate. I belong and deserve to be treated with respect without having to submit to DNA testing. Please oppose bill SB 2199.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify today and feel free to reach out if you have any further questions.

Aeon Axiom Carlson (xey/xem/xeirs, they/them/theirs)