My name is Nemo Siqueiros, my pronouns are he/they and I currently live in Moorhead, MN on the border of North Dakota. I am disabled and on the autistic spectrum since birth. I'm Mexican-American and have been discriminated against in the Fargo Public School system, which I attended, for my skin color, my queer identity, and my disability. I spent my upbringing resisting and defending myself from the harmful effects of bigotry, ignorance and state sponsored terrorism and hatred against any one of the intersectional identities I possess. I am a transgender artist, queer rights activist, media educator/broadcaster, dog dad, brother and son.

I am submitting my testimony today in strong opposition to SB2199, a bill to amend and reenact section 1-01-34 of North Dakota Century Code; and to provide a penalty.

I've been a member of the Fargo community since I was in elementary school, and graduated high school at Fargo South High, moving afterwards to Moorhead, MN. Fargo is where I and my family and those who work with me on my health for my disability go to the doctor, and where getting medical care that is affirming for my transition is crucial to having the supportive environment I need to be myself. Should this bill pass, my quality of health will immediately decline as I quickly find out that I will have less medical access and fewer options for my path to my more authentic self. You cannot hide or erase transgender children or adults any more than you can separate me from my autistic experience, as the saying goes, we are born this way. To demand that I give you my DNA is against my right for privacy, and against my freedom of speech to express myself as I see myself, not like how others would *like* to see me. To test DNA for gender is also dangerously close to eugenics to target trans individuals and will reveal intersex individuals that do not fit the classic XX and XY binary that is also a spectrum of X, XX, XXY, XY, and XXXY. I'm not so sure many people are ready to find out that they are in fact, not strictly male or female, and I doubt the legislature has taken into account the parental decisions that were made on behalf of intersex individuals prior to their ability to consent which led to many of these adult individuals to have never been informed of their intersex diagnosis at birth. Up to now, those intersex individuals have been living their lives presenting in the gender identity chosen for them by their parents, many times without their knowledge or consent. This bill will expose those private decisions and those intersex people to discrimination and trauma. To shove people like me back in the closet is to force me to wear a mask. For autistic people, masking is a coping mechanism that we are forced by allistic society to wear for their comfort, but it is a painful and torturous continuation of conversion style therapies to make autistic people seem less so. I'm done wearing masks for others. And I'm done wearing these clothes that do not feel right or the mask that shows a face of the oppressed you're not ready to confront or hear from. I belong in public and government funded spaces without having to submit to invasive DNA testing. Please oppose bill SB 2199.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify today.

Nemo Siqueiros
he/they
Broadcaster of Finding Me at 88.1 FM KPPP-LP radio