Members of the Legislative Committee,

I write this letter as an ally of the LGBTQ community. I belong to an LGBTQ-affirming Christian faith community.

I am opposed to SB2199. It will only cause more hurt and pain to our transgender friends, neighbors, and families. This bill literally attempts to erase their chosen identity. But, you know what? You can't erase people!

It takes a great amount of courage for transgender people to be who they truly are inside. These decisions are often made with the guidance of psychiatrists, counselors, and medical doctors. I have many friends who are transgender. I fear for them living here in North Dakota with the growing anti-LGBTQ rhetoric.

Please vote "no" on this bill.

Naomi Franek 422 25<sup>th</sup> Ave N Fargo, ND 58102