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January 17, 2023

Senate Judiciary Committee
State Capitol
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505

Subject: Senate Bill 2199

Dear Chair Larson and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

My testimony is in opposition to Senate Bill 2199. I ask that you give this bill a Do Not Pass.

The reason for this is that this bill conflicts with my ethical code of conduct because the bill attempts to erase trans individuals from society, pretending they don't exist, and giving them no rights to be who they are. There is a difference between sex and gender. Sex is biological, whereas gender is a social construct in which, while many of us find it to be in harmony with our sex, others find it's in opposition to their sex, or that a binary definition unnecessarily restricts expression of who they are.

I also think if this bill became law, it would lose business for our state.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and service to our state.

Cordially yours,
Christopher Coen