

House Human Services
January 27, 2025
HB 1144 - Testimony in Opposition

Chairman Ruby and members Human Services,

My name is Shannon Krueger and I am writing in opposition of HB 1144. As an educator and school counselor, I see firsthand how discrimination against transgender students hurts everyone. When you create an environment discriminating against certain students, you further send a message that affects their overall well-being. Transgender students are already at risk for higher rates of depression and lower self-esteem. Policies that discriminate can lead to lower academic performance and higher chances of dropout. If we truly want all students to succeed, bills such as these do not help.

When making school wide policies, we need to consider all children's circumstances. Providing an inclusive environment for all students and treating everyone with dignity and respect goes much farther than sending a message that some students' privacy and comfort do not matter.

Thank you.