

January 27th, 2025

Chairman Ruby and members of the House Human Services Committee:

I am writing in support of HB 1144.

As a parent of five children in the public school system, I believe this bill is an important safeguard for their well-being. I never want my children to feel uncomfortable about using a bathroom or locker room where a student of the opposite gender might also be present. As an adult woman, I know how uneasy I would feel sharing a bathroom space with a male, and I do not want any child to experience that discomfort.

Additionally, since school-aged children are still developing, I believe there should not be laws that prevent parents from accessing personal information about their children. Parents play a crucial role in their children's lives, and information transparency helps us guide and support them through these formative years.

Furthermore, ensuring a safe and comfortable environment for all students should be a priority. I believe that this bill will contribute to a more secure atmosphere in schools, allowing all children to focus on their education without unnecessary distractions or concerns.

Our children's safety is essential, and HB 1144 seeks to protect that. It reflects the values of many parents who want to safeguard their children while fostering a respectful school environment.

Thank you for your consideration,

Margi Yanish