

Jane Pettinger

3633 River Drive
Fargo, ND 58104

Date: March 19, 2023

To: North Dakota House Judiciary Committee

Re: SB 2231 on school policies on treatment of trans youth

Committee Chair and members of the Committee -

My name is Jane Pettinger, I reside in Fargo. I was born and raised here. This note is to let you all know that as a lifelong North Dakotan, I stand in firm opposition to SB 2231.

This bill will only serve to harm our most valuable resource: our children! It is a bill that does no one any good and causes harm to a select few individuals. Why do harm to our young people?? Our school professionals, who work with our young people every day, deserve our respect and support as they strive to ensure EVERY child is treated respectfully and reaches their best potential. This legislation will endanger our kids by sending messages of hate and division, making school professionals jobs even harder. Why is this bill needed? What problem is it resolving? What constituents is it serving?

We need to strive to support ALL North Dakotans. This includes all kids who struggle with all sorts of issues while they grow and mature and find their place in life. Let us support ALL of our youth. Why are politicians interfering in school professionals' actions?? Seriously!? What the heck are we spending time on this issue for?

Note: The entire state faces a labor shortage and our legislator's actions on LGBTQ+ issues this session will only serve to drive our youth out-of-state. This will be a clear consequence of all this hateful legislation. How about we send a message to our youth that we support them by **STRONGLY** killing this bill?!

Let people live their lives, their best lives, according to their own unique needs.

Jeez. Why is this an issue?

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