

House Human Services Committee,

The Fargo Human Rights Commission passed a resolution at its February 16 meeting in which we went on record opposing all anti-transgender bills, on the basis that they separately and collectively hurting our kids and they are restricting freedoms. Fargo has an incentive to make its citizens feel safe and welcome where they live, and this bill detracts from the ability of trans youth and families of trans youth to access medically necessary care. It is difficult, essentially impossible, to tell people that we live in an affirming city that actively welcomes people from all walks of life, when we our state is telling people that it is illegal to seek out gender affirming care with their medical providers.

This bill does not reflect the values of the community that it purports to serve. We believe that our community members are capable of having discussions with their medical teams, parents, and any other individuals that they trust to make decisions about their bodies. We respect and trust our community to make their own decisions.

As you have heard and will hear from multiple medical professionals, this bill will hinder their ability to provide care to their patients to the best of their abilities. If there is going to be a directive for licensed medical professionals to adhere to, it should come out of the appropriating accrediting body.

Thank you,

Cody Severson

Fargo Human Rights Commission Chair