

January 24, 2023

Regarding Senate Bill 2231

Dear Senate members,

I'm writing to strongly oppose Senate Bill 2231. This bill endorses discrimination and harms LGBTQ+ people in ND. People have individual rights and should have agency over their body and what they call themselves. I believe this bill would contribute to higher suicide rates and self harm among LGBTQ+ youth. As a Youth Director, I continue to hear what teachers call LGBTQ+ students in our schools, misgendering them and even calling youth "it" with little to no repercussions. This bill enables bullying. Adolescents need to be seen and heard and loved, not discriminated against. Please do not pass this bill.

Respectfully,

Molly Haagenon