

Submitter: Stacey Martin

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2458

The only emergency this could possibly be is an emergency of profit by medical institutions and pharmaceutical companies. The role of therapy has never been and should never be conversion nor should it be affirmation. If therapy isn't exploratory then there is no purpose of therapy and it is not playing its role in applying critical analysis and helping patients differentiate between a natural version of discomfort and one necessarily worth medicalizing. No, in this case, everyone would be medicalized who entered a therapist's office with a self-diagnosis. As if thirteen-year-olds possess the self-awareness and many years' worth of degreed knowledge to compare to that of the therapist, no, instead they possess the knowledge of talking points provided by social media. How do we know this? We know this because of the thousands of detransitioners. Enough to provide the lawsuits in quantity to shut down the Tavistock clinic in the UK, and enough to begin this same legal process in the U.S. This bill completely ignores the harms committed by gender medicine, provides no safeguards for youth who are not capable of making such lifelong decisions, and provides a gateway for insidious medical practices that will damage these children and our population permanently. If this bill is approved, we will know who is willing to sacrifice children's futures for special interest kickbacks. Let children grow up. Let them figure it out as they do. As they always have. And let therapists do their job in aiding that process versus sending them down the amputation and sterilization assembly line. Please and thank you.