

March 20, 2023

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB 2002

Chair Nosse, Vice-Chairs Goodwin and Nelson, and Members of the Committee

Gender affirming care is health care and all health care needs to be accessible and affordable.

With the current rise of legislation across the country to limit and criminalize women's health care and gender affirming care I support the passage of this bill. As members of this committee you have the opportunity to advance lifesaving legislation that will not only effect those individuals in need but will also bring comfort to the family and friends of those individuals.

Just like any other health condition, women's health care and gender affirming care are based in medical science that responds to real human need. Medical insurance plans should not be able to disregard treatment that is medically needed.

As a parents of a transgender child, we implore this committee to value the common good of all people and work to ensure everyone's access to life affirming care.

Respectfully Submitted,

James Pauls

Linda Pauls