Good Afternoon. I am writing on behalf of Gays Against Groomers, a non-profit organization that is fighting gender identity being forced into laws meant to safeguard vulnerable populations of people and surgically removing the healthy organs of children. We are submitting this testimony to formally say NO to the proposed gender-based civil rights amendments to the Oregon Constitution.

Our issue with these amendments is that they use "gender identity" as a protected category due to the public safety risks and erasure of boundaries. "Gender Identity" allows violent criminals to identify their way into women's prisons. Studies from Sweden show that men who identify as women do not have lower rates of violent criminality than other men. Upon adopting a new identity, the likelihood of committing violence against women does not decrease at all.

A study from 2009 observed that 20% of trans-identified inmates were incarcerated for sex crimes. 50% of these sex offenses were committed against other people. Self-identification laws do not require any medical treatments or a diagnosis of gender incongruence.

As a matter of fact, 80-95% of males who identify this way do not remove their penises.

Rapist Adam Graham was the image that one might conjure when thinking of a hardened criminal: bald, muscular, tattooed and prone to violence. However, after facing rape charges in 2020, Graham decided to become a woman named Isla Bryson, slapping on a wig and starting female hormone therapy. Conveniently, Graham/Bryson was then held at Cornton Vale women's prison.

This impacts school sports, as well. We have received multiple reports of girls getting injured at school because they are being forced to compete against boys. Therefore, we assisted in passing a policy that would binarize school sports, on the basis of sex, in order to ensure safety. A teenage girl was recently injured at school while playing volleyball due to her school's "gender-inclusive" policies. Her fellow students are afraid to speak up about their safety concerns because they do not want to get in trouble for transphobia or discrimination. This is a parental rights and safety issue. Parents should not have to feel unsafe sending their kids to school. "Gender identity" policies remove free speech and require preferred pronoun use in the workplace. It is possible for someone to lose their job because "sex harassment" now includes misgendering. This could force schools to use a child's preferred pronoun in the classroom, without parental knowledge. Not only does this destroy free speech, it could be illegal to not affirm a child's "gender identity." If a 12-year-old girl is using the boys' locker room at school and regularly changing clothes in a room full of boys, parents are not notified. This permits boys to enter female spaces in schools without any pushback or questioning.

A recent study examined 220 media-reported sexual offenses in Target stores from 2003 to August of 2017. Voyeuristic sex crimes nearly tripled after Target enacted restroom policies, on the basis of "gender identity" in 2016. There was a 2.3x increase in the amount of upskirt incidents and a 2.9x increase in peeping tom incidents as a direct result of adopting vague gender-inclusive rules, like the ones outlined in this proposal.

The word homosexual denotes that we are same-sex oriented and pair with people of the same sex. States like Colorado were immediately required to change the legal definition of sexual orientation after "gender" was added. We fought decades for homosexual/bisexual civil rights protections. This amendment might take that away from us.

Gays Against Groomers opposes the proposed amendments to the Oregon Constitution in their entirety. This would put citizens in unsafe situations and deny people the right to recognize the objective material reality being presented before their eyes. If you care about the well-being of your citizens, then you will oppose this, as well.

Thank you.