

Submitter: Brian Ridderbusch

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2948

I had a discrepancy between the name of a medication on a prescription versus the entirety of recorded names for a student in our district wide educator charting system. The prescription name was the legal name and the name in the education system only included the preferred name of the student. The student was over 18 and likely entered it themselves during this years registration. I asked the school administration to change the legal name to the correct legal name, and that we would continue to refer to the student as their preferred name, but that my medication record will match the medication label and the student record. That the name on the medication must match the name of the student in our record. This is a simple medical precaution all healthcare professionals understand without any hesitancy. The administration was on the defense, protecting the students name as though I was potentially harming the student. The student was honored and the name was changed in the record to reflect the student legal name and preferred name. However, I was only able to persist in my effort to keep the student safe so they get the correct medication, because i had the support of a RN supervisor to help guide me in discussing this very difficult subject with school administrators. I value, respect and appreciate the great effort the administration puts into protecting students and am not saying they did anything wrong. I am supporting this measure because the bravery it takes to address the legal realities in issues of student identity formation is more than most people can comprehend. I firmly believe this subject would not have been resolved amicably without having a RN as my supervisor and having the benefit of her experience and professionalism to get me through this rightfully difficult situation. Students must be actively protected, and I accept that these subjects are going to be difficult.