

March 1, 2025

Dear NH Representatives,

I am writing to you regarding the onslaught of legislation brought forth by the republican administration against transgender people, specifically young transgender individuals. As the mother of a 19 year old non-binary person, and 16 year old transgender son, these attacks have brought on unnecessary anxiety and frustration.

My family has been receiving phenomenal support and care from medical professionals in Southern New Hampshire to help us navigate the process of understanding unique gender preferences and take appropriate steps to support physical and mental health accordingly. The harmful legislation I am most concerned about are HB377 and the executive order by President Donald Trump which condemns gender affirming care.

My son, Sam, was diagnosed with gender dysphoria in October 2022. His personal experience with his gender and his body are just that, personal. It is absolutely inappropriate and an infringement on his human rights to have legislation dictate what healthcare treatment Sam's doctors, along with myself, Sam's father and Sam, have determined will greatly improve his quality of life. Given the amount of scientific and medical research supporting gender affirming care as necessary and appropriate treatment for gender dysphoria, I am appalled at politicians who believe they know what is best for my family.

Sam has been thriving since he was able to begin hormone therapy in June 2023. He has weekly appointments with a mental health counselor and quarterly check ups with other health care providers. He has an honor roll standing at his high school, participates in arts and theatre, has ambition of college and is surrounded by supportive friends and family. Why is the republican administration so hell bent on disrupting the lives of transgender people?

I honestly hope that we can continue on our course of supporting Sam in the ways that best work for him. Each of us are on different paths in this world, we are responsible for ourselves and to some extent the others in our community. It saddens me to see HB377, legislation being proposed by Erica Layon, (R) of Derry. My children deserve to live in a community free from discrimination and hate. When I read this bill, disguised as "compassion and protection" it reeks of fear and oppression. It does not seek to understand or protect transgender people, but to banish them and those who try to help them.

For these reasons, I am asking you to please stand up for my family and fight against these harmful legislations that undermine human dignity and decency.

Sincerely,

Emily Pearson
Derry, NH

