

Opponent Testimony of HB2238
For the Senate Education Committee
March 6, 2023
Joy Brungardt
EQUAL Trans Support Group

Chair Baumgardner and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide opponent written testimony on House Bill 2238.

My name is Joy Brungardt. I'm an administrator for EQUAL Trans Support Group. I've been working with transgender people of all ages and their families and allies for over 10 years. Opposing this bill is important to me because trans people are under attack. Trans women are women. They have every right to be in women's spaces. They are human beings who do not deserve the oppression and persecution this bill would inflict if posed into law.

If this bill is passed, it will harm trans women. If this bill is passed it will not benefit cis women in any way. When I'm in public with my partner, my colleagues, or my friends I want them to be able to use the restroom. I want them to be able to use the restroom in safety. I want them to be safe in general. If this bill passes, not only will they be barred from public restrooms and women's sports, but it will harm them emotionally and it will make transphobia supported by law. It will tell Kansans that it is ok to discriminate against trans people. It will encourage hate and violence. Please do the right thing. Vote no on this bill.

This bill is wrong. Passing it is legalizing discrimination. Thank you for considering my testimony. Please do what is right.