

Kim Mahanna-Bellemere
HB 2426 Opponent Written Only
Private Citizen
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 2426. My name is Kim Mahanna-Bellemere and I am a voter living in rural Leavenworth County. I am writing to voice my opposition to this dangerous bill and encourage you to vote NO.

Transgender Americans represent approximately 1% of the U.S. population, yet lawmakers nationwide have an outsized and somewhat disturbing fascination with how trans people live their lives. Every year legislatures work to increase the restrictions placed on trans people, and in doing so, they place trans people at an increased risk of harm. HB 2426 is yet another example of this trend.

Information from the National Institutes of Health indicates that changing one's gender marker on legal documents can significantly increase well-being and mental health outcomes for trans people (www.pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC7229467/).

Conversely, inaccurate identification puts transgender people at an increased risk of harassment and discrimination (www.williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/publications/gender-marker-policies/).

Bills such as HB 2426 serve no public good. Kansans will not benefit from its passage. However, transgender Kansans (many of whom are your constituents) will experience significant harm in the form of discrimination, ridicule and the very real potential for physical harm. Is that really what you want for your fellow Kansans?

This bill does nothing more than codify bigotry and discrimination. We Kansans are better than that.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit testimony. Please vote no on HB 2426 and protect the rights of transgender Kansans.

Testimony to House Judiciary Committee
Regarding HB 2426
From Joan Welch Major
322 Spruce Street
Halstead, Kansas 67056

I am a private citizen with a transgender son. I understand the impulse to try to stop or alter things one does not understand. I was in my sixties when my son understood and revealed that he is transgender. In my youth, this was treated as an aberration, as a joke, and these people were demeaned. I hope we have grown in understanding and that our moral compass has changed. Transgender people did not choose to become transgender; for them, as I understand it, it is something inside that tells them they are male or female or non-binary. I am a heterosexual female, and I cannot begin to articulate how I would feel if someone told me I had to have a male designation on my birth certificate and driver's license. And all that while my photo on my driver's license looks like a female and the name on my license says "Joan." This isn't a public safety issue. I would think police officers would find it confusing to pull over a masculine-looking transgender male with a female designation on his license. I think it will just muddle the law enforcement situation in all respects.

Please treat transgender people as human beings deserving of all rights that everyone else has and put HB 2426 to rest. Thank you.

Joan Major

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition to House Bill 2426. My name is Jake Makela, and I am a trans Kansan. This is not my first oppositional testimony to a bill that directly threatens my own and my community members' basic rights to self determination, privacy, and safety. According to a 2020 NIH study, legal gender affirmation (via gender marker and/or name change) is significantly associated with improved mental health outcomes in transgender individuals.¹ According to a 2023 NIH study, transgender individuals experience disproportionately higher rates of substance use, self-harm, and suicidality, with 81% of participants experiencing suicidal ideation and 42% who had attempted suicide.² According to a 2021 study by The Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law, inaccurate IDs (i.e. those that are refused the opportunity for a gender marker change in accordance with their presentation) increase occurrences of harassment and discrimination by TSA.³ The Kansas Bill of Rights grants natural rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, all of which exist in opposition to this bill. Statistically, ethically, and legally, this bill is unsafe. It threatens to wreak havoc on trans Kansans, those who love them, and an already overburdened division of motor vehicles. As a student, a teacher, and a transgender resident of Kansas, I ask that you vote against Senate Bill 2426 in accordance with long-standing state protections.

¹Restar, Arjee et al. "Legal gender marker and name change is associated with lower negative emotional response to gender-based mistreatment and improve mental health outcomes among trans populations." *SSM - population health* vol. 11 100595. 11 May. 2020, doi:10.1016/j.ssmph.2020.100595.

²Kidd, Jeremy D et al. "Prevalence of substance use and mental health problems among transgender and cisgender U.S. adults: Results from a national probability sample." *Psychiatry research* vol. 326 (2023): 115339. doi:10.1016/j.psychres.2023.115339

³Herman, Jody L., and Kathryn O'Neill. *GENDER MARKER CHANGES ON STATE ID DOCUMENTS: State-Level Policy Impacts*. The Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law, 2021. *JSTOR*, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep34880>.

JOY MAPES
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY
PRIVATE CITIZEN
1/13/2026

Members of the House Committee on Judiciary:

My name is Joy Mapes;

I have lived in Kansas my entire life, from Leavenworth, Baldwin City, Lawrence, Merriam, Fort Scott, and Lawrence again. I am currently a constituent in district 46. I earned my bachelor's degree at Baker University and my Master of Social Work from Washburn University. I am a Licensed Master Social Work. In both my professional and personal experience, I have gotten to know so many people, their individual stories and journeys, their struggles and successes. Some of these people – friends, clients, neighbors – are trans, and I am advocating for their rights now.

I oppose HB 2426 because it legislates government overreach into the lives of Kansans, creates administrative burden and risk for state agencies, and endangers already vulnerable Kansans.

Identifying as trans is an extremely personal journey of self-examination and self-expression. Whether an individual's declared gender matches their sex organs at birth is not the government's or the public's business, and in attempting to make it the government's and the public's business, this bill alienates constituents who believe our private lives are private.

Also, if passed, this bill would create a massive administrative burden for the DMV and Office of Vital Statistics to change records and produce updated driver's licenses, state IDs, and birth certificates. Is the cost in staffing, materials, training, and time worth pushing this ideological issue? Additionally, is it worth the time and resources the state may spend in litigation due to legal challenges and conflict with federal policies and standards?

Most importantly, is this bill worth the risk to Kansans' lives, liberty, and happiness? If forced to use legal documents that state their sex assigned at birth rather than their lived genders, transgender Kansans will be exposed to increased scrutiny. Anyone who looks at their IDs – employers, medical staff, leasing agents – will see the discrepancy and then be able to use that information against them. This makes trans Kansas even more vulnerable to harassment, discrimination, and violence. (The risk of physical violence against trans individuals is real. According to the report *Violent Victimization by Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, 2017-2020* by the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics, "The rate of violent victimization against transgender persons (51.5 victimizations per 1,000 person age 16 or older) was 2.5 times the rate among cisgender persons (20.5 per 1,000).") Is this bill worth the increased risk of harm to my friends, clients, and neighbors? To your constituents?

Thank you for allowing me to oppose this bill today. Please vote no on the passage of House Bill 2426.

JIMMY MARCH
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY
PRIVATE CITIZEN
1/13/2026

"Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you so much for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Jimmy March and I am a voter in Shawnee KS/Johnson County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426

Bills targeting the queer community do nothing more than to further divide us. At a time when Kansans are facing real issues, I implore the governing body to reject this bill as it is simply built to hurt people who are different rather than uplifting Kansans.

Once again, I thank you all for hearing my story and thoughts on this bill, and I encourage you all to vote no of the passage of HB 2426. Thank you.

Lawrence March
HB 2426 Opponent Written only
Private citizen
1/12/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you so much for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Lawrence March and I am a voter in Shawnee in Johnson County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426

I have trans friends that are very close to me and this bill will severely negatively affect their lives. They're not some boogy man to be afraid of, they're real people trying to live their lives. They aren't hurting anyone simply by being trans.

Thank you for your time and again I highly encourage you to vote no on the passage of HB 2426. Thank you.

Michelle Marion
HB 2526 opponent Written Only
Private Citizen
1/13/2026

Members of the Committee, thank you so much for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Michelle Marion and I am a voter in Sedgwick County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426"

Honestly the fact that I am even writing this feels surreal. The idea that the government would be more concerned with my genitals than my safety is a dystopian novel no one has bothered writing because it's too absurd for science fiction. The people that will be negatively affected by HB 2426 literally want nothing more than the right to exist. They only want to be able to live their lives without fear, something I'm sure everyone one of you want as well. I have felt safer with trans and gender non-conforming people than I will likely ever feel with a cis-gendered man. If your goal is to protect women you need to protect their protectors and safe guard their rights.

Once again, I thank you all for hearing my thoughts on this bill, and I encourage you all to vote no of the passage of HB 2426. Thank you

LESLIE D. MARK
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY
Very Concerned Private Citizen
1/12/2026

Chair and Members of Judiciary Committee,

I appreciate you taking time to read my thoughts on HB 2426 with you. Given the short notice you offered us, the public, I will return the favor and be brief. My name is Leslie Mark and I am a 39-year veteran of voting in Johnson County. I am asking the committee to vote NO on HB 2426

Attorney General Kobach's request that you revisit an issue he so decisively lost last June before the Kansas Court of Appeals is real chutzpah. The Court determined that the state would suffer NO HARM by allowing transgender residents to be identified by their "gender."

In the 11 year period that the option to change one's gender marker on drivers licenses was allowed and unchallenged, the grand total number of requests for changes was about FOUR THOUSANDTHS OF ONE PERCENT — 0.00408% — or 380 drivers licenses out of 9,316,937 issued!

In an era when people are being assaulted and kidnapped off the streets, detained by warrantless, masked men, America's collapsing democracy and crumbling rule of law could use legislative bodies devoted less to theatre and more to the guarantee of human rights. Questioning and harassing the smallest minority wishing to align their gender to their identity as a human being is, frankly, beneath your dignity as leaders in our state.

A moral battle is raging; sadly HB 2426 aims to outflank the most vulnerable among us once again — spotlighting, shaming, and harassing those who just bravely asserted their true self. Without call for favoritism or desire for denigration, a tiny minority is looking to us — to you — for a compassionate disinterest in their gender. I would ask you, instead, for a stronger resolve to improve life for all Kansans. Thank you for voting NO on HB 2426.

Cassie Martin
HB2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY
PRIVATE CITIZEN
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you so much for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Cassie Martin and I am a voter in Leavenworth County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

HB 2426 is a clear infringement on the liberties of every Kansas resident. The definition of "sex" on page 5 excludes intersex Kansans. Passage of this bill ignores the complexities and nuances of biology. Please vote no!

Will it cost taxpayer dollars to go back and change licenses/birth certificate to sex-assigned at birth? Who will be assigned these tasks? Your constituents do not want this bill, or anything that remotely looks like this bill.

I've lived in rural towns in Leavenworth County (currently), the city in Topeka, KS and both KCK and KCMO. One thing I know is this - no matter how small a town, there are always all expressions of gender living there. Don't overlook them if you believe they don't live in your district.

Once again, I thank you all for hearing my story and thoughts on this bill, and I encourage you all to vote no of the passage of HB 2426. Thank you.

Michael Mascorro
HB 2426 Opponent Written only
Private citizen
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you so much for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Michael Mascorro and I am a voter in Wichita. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426

I, and countless other transgender people throughout the state, have worked hard to shift my life around the hurdles the government has repeatedly put in front of us. I am just a person. A person who wants to enjoy the little, simple, things that every other resident of Kansas takes for granted. Living without fear of where I am when my body tells me it's time to go to the bathroom. Showering in the locker rooms at the gym instead of having to drive in stinky workout clothes to shower at home. I want to be able to watch the trans kids around me enjoying sports and community without fear of being molested by some adult who feels they're cheating at sports because of their genitals. My biological sex matters PRIVATELY, between myself and medical professionals. My gender is my presentation to everyone else, and do you know how silly and ridiculous it looked to others to be a man with a beard but the state said I had to have F on my license. It was silly enough that I could say it was a print error and other Kansas believed me. This is because people don't care about biological sex when our social contract is built on the presentation of our gender presentation. They don't care about biological sex when Kansas still hasn't expanded our Medicaid, still hasn't provided access to medical marijuana as a safe alternative to opioids, and still leaves people on the streets because our shelter system is inefficient and ineffective without expanded Medicaid. I am asking you to vote NO today because we need you to focus on the things that matter to Kansas, not the pointless talking points and fads made up in Washington.

Once again, I thank you all for hearing my story and thoughts on this bill, and I encourage you all to vote no of the passage of HB 2426. Thank you.

Andrianna Matthews
HB 2426 Opponent Written only
Private citizen
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and members of the committee thank you for reading my thoughts on HB 2426. My name is Andrianna Matthews and I am a voter in Shawnee. I am writing to encourage the committee to vote No on HB 2426.

I oppose HB 2426. It is not the government's place to decide constituents gender markers on legal identification. It is an overreach at best, and a waste of time and money. It is disrespectful and dangerous . What a person identifies as should be validated not questioned by the government. The government should serve the people not bully and terrorize them. Every citizen deserves safety, not allowing correct pronouns makes everyone less safe.

Once again I thank you for your time. Please vote no on the passage of HB 2426. Thank you.

Kelley Begley McCall
HB 2426 Opponent Written Only
PRIVATE CITIZEN
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you for taking the time to read my testimony on HB 2426. My name is Kelley Begley McCall and I am a voter in Sedgwick County. I am both a mother to a 22-year-old transgender son and an educator in Kansas, and I am writing today to ask the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

HB 2426 would create situations where transgender Kansans are forced to prove or defend their existence in everyday settings. Something as ordinary as showing an ID for a job interview, opening a bank account, or accessing housing becomes risky when legal documents are required to contradict who a person actually is. That kind of forced outing increases the chances of harassment, discrimination, and even violence. Laws should make public life easier and safer, not more dangerous.

As a mother, I have watched my son navigate situations where safety isn't guaranteed. I have seen him think through whether using a restroom, showing his ID, or accessing basic services will put him at risk. These are calculations that most people never have to make. HB 2426 would make that burden heavier, not lighter.

As an educator in Kansas, I have spent years helping young people build confidence, belonging, and hope for their future. I have seen firsthand how critical those things are for healthy development and for becoming a contributing adult. When the state passes laws that tell a group of young people that they are unwelcome or suspect, it undermines that development. It discourages participation in school, in work, and in community life. It isolates students who are already more likely to face discrimination and harm.

Kansas currently has no statewide nondiscrimination protections for transgender people. Instead of addressing that, HB 2426 increases the barriers transgender Kansans face and opens the door to excluding them from spaces like bathrooms, domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, and other critical services. While this bill claims to protect women, in practice it makes transgender Kansans less safe and less able to access care, safety, or dignity.

Passing HB 2426 would not solve a public safety problem—it would create one. It would make it harder for transgender Kansans to work, learn, seek help when they need it, and fully participate in their own communities. That is not in line with who we are or who we want to be as a state.

Thank you again for hearing from parents and educators like me. I ask you to vote NO on HB 2426 because this bill would harm people who are simply trying to live their lives in the state they call home.

KIERYN JESSEP MCCANN
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY
PRIVATE CITIZEN
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you so much for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Kieryn McCann. I am a voter in McPherson County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

This bill is an egregious use of tax payer dollars and your time as many of your constituents are starving, experiencing systemic and domestic violence due to the destabilization of the social services our taxes should be funding. Using precious time in session for this political stunt opens a door to harm all constituents, not just families like mine, as a blatantly bold steps towards administrative erasure and criminalization of humans. The Kansas Supreme Court has already affirmed Transgender folks the right to administrative recognition. Our Attorney General's crusade should not be pushed forward.

Once again, I thank you all for considering my prospective on this bill, and hope your consider all the personal stories of real Kansan families you've received opposing the passage of this bill and vote NO on HB 2426.

KATE MCELROY
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY
PRIVATE CITIZEN
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you so much for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Kate McElroy and I am a voter in Wichita. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

Showing your ID shouldn't be a dangerous act. Transgender people face pervasive discrimination and hate-based violence just for being themselves. You need legal documents to get a job, open a bank account, go to school, or even get a library card. Laws that put transgender people at more risk of hate based violence for engaging in everyday actions that require showing their ID means that transgender Kansans could miss out on these important parts of life to protect their safety. My son is transgendered. Anytime he has to "out" himself, he risks hated-based violence. This is a danger we consider all the time, from school to the store to just walking around. This bill would encourage discrimination against my son, as well as putting him at greater risk for hate-based violence. I just want my child to be safe in his community. This bill would directly endanger his safety.

Once again, thank you for hearing my story and thoughts on this bill. I encourage you all to vote NO on the passage of HB 2426. Thank you for your time.

Landon McGee
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY
PRIVATE CITIZEN
1/12/2026

Chair Humphries and members of the committee, I appreciate the space to share my perspective on HB 2426. My name is Landon McGee, and I am a voter in Douglas County. I'm writing today to urge the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

As a longtime educator and member of the community in Kansas, I've been lucky to serve university students from many walks of life and to get to know my neighbors. I grew up in Texas, but it wasn't till I arrived in Kansas that I really felt I had found my home. What I love most about this state and the incredible citizens of Kansas who form my community is the fact that we stick up for each other and protect the least of these, as the Scripture of my upbringing teaches.

This bill purports to defend the vulnerable. But it does so by misrepresenting trans people and casting them as a threat to others. This is not protecting the vulnerable, it's making a vulnerable group even more vulnerable by making it harder for them to be themselves. I'm sure I'm not the first person in testimony to point out that this bill makes all of the moments where my transgender neighbors need to show ID into potential moments of harassment or danger. Beyond that, this simply isn't the Kansas way. We don't want the state government looking over our shoulder and peeking into our private lives. We want to be, all of us, treated with basic dignity and respect.

I am a cisgender man, married to a woman. This law won't affect me, at least not directly. But it'll mean I'm worried, even more than I already am with the laws on the books, about my trans neighbors and friends. It'll also mean, certainly, saying goodbye to some of those friends who are able to move to states where they will be treated with more dignity. Some Kansas still may come away after this legislative session believing that bills like this are good-faith attempts to protect women, but more and more of us see these kinds of legislative initiatives for what they are—ultimately, they're scapegoating our friends, coworkers, and neighbors. I hope the committee will make the determination that enough time and energy has been wasted putting our vulnerable neighbors at risk, and that this legislation is not worth moving forward.

Again, I appreciate the time and energy our elected officials spend to hear this testimony, and I encourage you all to vote no on HB 2426. Thank you.

Megan
HB 2426 Opponet WRITTEN ONLY
N/a
1/13/2026

N/a

I oppose this bill

Once again, I thank you all for hearing my story and thoughts on this bill, and I encourage you all to vote no of the passage of HB 2426. Thank you.

Written Testimony in Opposition to HB 2426

Submitted to the Kansas House Judiciary Committee

Name: Daphne Mertens

City: Emporia, Kansas

Date: 1.13.25 9:15 a.m.

Gender marker changes affect no one except the person they belong to. They do not take anything away from anyone else, do not create harm, and have no impact on public safety or daily life. Medical and legal experts consistently show that allowing people to correct their identity documents improves mental health, stability, and overall well-being. Blocking these changes serves no practical purpose. It does not solve a problem or protect Kansans. It is simply cruelty, imposed for cruelty's sake.

I also want to note the broader consequences of legislation like HB 2426. Kansas is losing residents because of the constant attacks on transgender people. My family is actively looking to move to a safer state, one that does not seek to harm my child every time legislators introduce a bill. My child is an adult, and we are a family of six lifelong Kansans: community leaders, taxpayers, and people who have invested deeply in this state. We are exhausted from being targeted so that Kansas legislators can gain political favor by attacking a small and vulnerable population.

This bill does not reflect Kansas values of fairness, privacy, or personal freedom. I urge you to oppose HB 2426.

Gretchen Meyer
HB 2426 Opponent Written only
Private Citizen
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you very much for allowing me to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you. My name is Gretchen Meyer and I am a voter in Overland Park. I am writing today to ask the committee to vote NO on HB 2426

As a woman, I cannot stand by and watch a bill that purports to protect me be used to discriminate against so many Kansans. By creating misleading and inaccurate gender markers, this bill would make it even easier to harm and marginalize members of the trans and non-binary community. These people, many of whom I know and love, already struggle every day from a lack of legal protection and this bill would make their lives much more difficult. If the legislature wishes to help women, I can think of a variety of ways for them to do so, but HB 2426 is not on that list. This bill will not help anyone, it will only harm an already vulnerable community.

Thank you for considering my concerns on this bill, and I encourage you all to vote no on HB 2426.

Anna Midyette
HB 2426 Opponent Written only
Private citizen
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you so much for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Anna Midyette and I am a voter in Doniphan County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426

This is a waste of time for a tiny portion of the population. Things like this discriminate and are harmful. I have seen first hand how being able to use the right pronouns, gender markers, etc have saved a person's life.

Thank you for reading. Please vote no.

Josef Miles
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY
PRIVATE CITIZEN
1/12/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you so much for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Josef Miles and I am a voter in Jackson County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426"

I am deeply concerned and disappointed in a bill like this being rammed so quickly through the legislative process. This is something that I do not find requires this commotion, especially when there are better, more important legislation that could be rushed through with such speed. I cannot understand what this fascination with culture war issues is when Kansans are facing real issues in making ends meet, accessing healthcare, and infrastructure on par with that of a developing nation. What good comes from targeting transsexuals? It seems that this state has a fixation on these people that borders on obsession. It strikes me as oppressive, and a sign that the people of this state government are not taking its constituents genuine material needs seriously.

Thank you again for allowing me to explain my position on this bill, and I once again encourage you all to vote no on the passage of HB2426.

Amanda Mogoi, APRN
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY
Private Citizen
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition to HB 2426.

I, Amanda L. Mogoi, APRN, am a primary care and hormone therapy provider in Wichita, Kansas. I am a member of and certified in family practice through the American Association of Nurse Practitioners. I am World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH) trained and one of only 163 certified WPATH clinical providers in the world. I am the co-owner of M-Care Healthcare, LLC where I currently provide care to over 2500 gender diverse Kansans, including people that would be directly harmed by this bill. I am providing testimony today to request that you oppose HB 2426 – an unnecessary attack on transgender individuals under the guise of “correct documentation”. My experience providing care for the community and my medical expertise validates the need for my testimony to be heard in opposition to this legislation. My testimony is based on my education, experience, and the research currently available.

As a medical provider, I understand that biological sex and gender are different. Although often in symmetry with each other, there are times that a person’s gender is incongruent with the sex that was assigned to them at birth. Sex is assigned at birth, or often before birth due to sonography, based on visual interpretation of external genitalia. External genitalia is not always reflective of a person’s reproductive potential or capacity, sex chromosomes, naturally occurring sex hormones, gonads, or internal organs that are present. We all know that bodies are different from person to person and external genitalia, like every other part of humanity, should be seen as a spectrum of normal presentations. In fact, the latest clinical guidance for physicians regarding assigning sex in children born with ambiguous external genitalia is to not assign a sex at birth and allow the child to define their gender based on their own life experience. When gender is incongruent with the sex assigned at birth, a person may identify as transgender.

The process of presenting in congruence with the gender that best reflects who a transgender person is called transition. During transition, people may decide to change things about their outward appearance, their name, and even their legal gender marker. The process of obtaining a legal gender marker change in the state of Kansas is in-depth and is already well defined. A key part of that process is getting a letter from your medical provider. The guidelines surrounding being able to obtain that letter are laid out by WPATH. Further information will be provided to show the depth of regulations already required to write a gender marker letter by email. Please review the example of a gender marker letter as definitive proof that no one can change their gender marker, in Kansas or in the world, without following these guidelines. It’s

time to trust medical professionals and patients that they are following established requirements. It is not necessary for the Kansas legislature to further intervene.

By introducing this bill, this legislature seeks to impede the pursuit of happiness for Kansans by this legislation and we, the people, are tired of it. As our elected officials, we call on you to protect Kansans and stop ostracizing communities and citizens that you have taken a vow to serve. I respectfully demand that you vote no to HB 2426.

Michele A. Montour-Kumm
HB2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY
Private Citizen
1/13/2026

To Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee:

To state that I am disappointed as a citizen of Kansas is an understatement. We should not have to start every legislative session saying, "Here we go again," awaiting more attacks on the civil rights of transgender citizens. But here we are. Here we go again.

Why is such a disproportionate amount of energy and tax dollars used to address a group of people that comprise just 1-3% of the population. It is correct to call this hyperfocus and continued attack as persecution. Apparently in the eyes of some members of our legislature they are guilty of the crime being different yet transgender people are simply this: Citizens of the State of Kansas. They are imbued with the same rights and expectations of freedom and justice as you or I. Yet you continue to put a shadow over them as if their existence was somehow wrong. It is not. They are a part of our natural order and have been part of our history for thousands of years. Yet here it is: Once again you want to illegitimize who they are. I am here to say stop. I am here to say no more.

Time and again the fears you promote and continue to sell prove untrue. These are illusions created by special interest groups that sell hate. Transgender people are not trying to "fool" anyone or cause any issue with you. They just want to live. They want to live as their true gender affecting no one and being productive members of society. I think you mistake sex and gender and prefer to cling to that despite how often you are presented with facts. A transgender man is a man. A transgender woman is a woman. With this action, their ID does not match. You have someone clearly looking like a man with "Female" marked on their ID or a very feminine woman presenting an ID indicating "Male." You have this illusion of a "man in a dress" and this is very much incorrect. You are toying with something that impacts their rights in this country including a right to travel safely. A difference could result in danger when interacting with a number of entities. Frighteningly, you are disenfranchising a group of people just because you refuse to understand who they are. There are many scenarios where you will generate intentional difficulty. You do realize this is a problem only recently manufactured with the intent of discrimination and you are happy to push it despite a court ruling.

This bill is an intentional detriment to citizens of this state and, honestly, anyone who supports it should be ashamed. Ashamed of the persecution of a group of innocent people who have no history of creating problems with the gender markers on their state IDs or in any way. You are going after a non-existent problem. But look at all of the issues facing the people of this state that you are ignoring to give this a suspicious and disturbing priority and push. The change to a hearing on such short notice is clearly suspicious. But look at all the issues you should be looking at and working on for the other 99% of this state. Think about that - 99%. Isn't that an incredible number? Especially when this is a manufactured problem that is not a problem for anyone but those in the statehouse. It is persecution. It is state-promoted discrimination.

You should also be ashamed of the greater impact you have on these people's lives. Do you realize that every time these bills come up it causes a rise in depression and anxiety in a population that already has increased fear? You don't even need to pass it. Just you doing this right here. You are impacting the welfare of decent, amazing people. You are knowingly increasing difficulty in their lives. Did you know that repeatedly being misgendered also causes an increase in depression and anxiety? Do you also know that we are losing more and more valuable talent from this state? They want to be safe. They want to be recognized as human beings with rights. This has to stop.

Please. Stop this now. Vote NO on HB2426

Sincerely,

Michele A. Montour-Kumm
(She/Her/Hers)

Dr. Candice N. Moran
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY
PRIVATE CITIZEN
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you so much for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Dr. Candice N. Moran (they/them) and I am in House district 31. I am writing today as a private citizen (my thoughts and opinions are all my own) to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426

I am a licensed psychologist in Kansas City, Kansas, and I have been working with transgender, nonbinary, and gender-diverse individuals since 2010. I am also a nonbinary person and the parent of a nonbinary elementary student.

This bill seeks to codify inaccurate definitions of gender that will be used to discriminate, creating unsafe and hostile environments for transgender, intersex, and gender-diverse Kansans.

For most of you, showing an ID is a routine, mundane task. For a transgender person, it can be a dangerous act. We live in a reality where transgender people face pervasive discrimination and hate-based violence simply for being who they are. You need legal documents for almost every facet of public life: to get a job, open a bank account, enroll in school, or even get a library card.

HB 2426 mandates the invalidation and reissuance of driver's licenses and birth certificates to reflect biological sex at birth rather than an individual's lived identity. By forcing transgender Kansans to carry documents that "out" them in every everyday interaction, this bill places them at a heightened risk of harassment and violence, not to mention the psychological and health risks & disparities associated with prolonged stress and oppression. Many may choose to withdraw from public life—missing out on jobs and education—simply to protect their physical safety.

Kansas currently has no laws that explicitly protect transgender citizens from discrimination. HB 2426 does not just lack protection; it actively increases the risk of harm to Kansas citizens and visitors.

While this bill is framed under the guise of "statutory construction" or protecting women, it is disingenuous and dangerous. By defining gender solely as biological sex at birth, it effectively prohibits individuals from accessing the spaces and services that match their identity—including restrooms, domestic violence shelters, and rape crisis centers. These are essential safety nets. Removing access to them does not make anyone safer; it leaves the most vulnerable members of our community without recourse in their times of greatest need.

As a psychologist, I see the toll this takes. My child has been out since kindergarten and thrives in an affirming environment. However, when the state moves to erase our existence through legislation like this, the result is increased anxiety, depression, and trauma.

The data & research is clear:

- 66% of transgender and nonbinary youth have seriously considered suicide.
- The risk of suicide attempts among trans adults is 42%.
- Affirmation and legal recognition are suicide prevention.

When we allow individuals the autonomy to live authentically and have that identity reflected in their legal documents, we save lives. HB 2426 does the opposite.

Gender identity is a matter of personal autonomy and identity. Individuals know who they are and should be the ones determining this - it should not be mandated by the state through restrictive and scientifically inaccurate definitions.

I ask you to listen to the individuals mostly directly impacted & at risk, as well as the professionals who are telling you that this bill is a threat to the safety and well-being of your constituents. Please protect the rights and lives of all Kansans. Thank you for taking the time to hear my thoughts on this bill, and I encourage you all to vote NO on HB 2426. Thank you.



Taylor Morton, Legislative Affairs and Organizing Manager
Planned Parenthood Great Plains Votes
4401 W. 109th Street, Suite 200, Overland Park, KS 66211

Written Testimony in Opposition to HB 2426
House Committee on Judiciary
January 13, 2026

Planned Parenthood Great Plains Votes (“PPGPV”) is the advocacy and political arm of Comprehensive Health of Planned Parenthood Great Plains and Planned Parenthood Great Plains (“PPGP”), which offer compassionate sexual and reproductive health care to patients with four health center locations in Kansas. PPGPV submits this testimony in opposition to House Bill 2426.

Identity documents (IDs) are a necessity for many aspects of daily life—including driving a car, getting a job, opening a bank account, and getting a library card. HB 2426 would further codify a harmful, inaccurate definition of “gender” that excludes transgender and nonbinary Kansans and subject them to potential harm. In perpetuating the false notion that “gender” is akin to one’s sex assigned at birth, HB 2426 will allow for further discrimination against trans, intersex, and gender diverse Kansans. Showing an ID should not be a dangerous or invalidating act.

Having access to accurate IDs is directly related to transgender people’s health and wellbeing. Transgender people who live in states with restricting ID laws suffer worse health outcomes across multiply measures, even when controlled for income and age.¹ Transgender people with accurate IDs report better mental health outcomes, including decreased suicidal ideation.² Accurate gender markers consistent with one’s identity are also a matter of safety. Nearly one third of transgender people surveyed nationally reported harassment, denial of services, and even physical attack following a show of an ID that did not match their name or gender identity.³

HB 2426 does nothing to protect the rights of Kansans and seeks only to restrict them. This bill would open the door for widespread scrutiny of gender expression, and limit access to everyday life for transgender, nonbinary, and gender diverse people. Identity documents should be accurate, consistent, and reflective of one’s identity. IDs allow us to start new jobs, open bank accounts, enroll in school, participate in civic life, and more. When a transgender person is forced to show an ID that doesn’t match who they are, they can face discrimination, harassment and even physical violence. It is not the role of the Legislature to determine the gender of individual Kansans.

PPGPV urges the Committee to oppose HB 2426.

¹ <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC6308272/>

² <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2468266720300323>

³ <https://transequality.org/sites/default/files/docs/usts/USTS-Full-Report-Dec17.pdf>

Jae Moyer
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY
Private Citizen
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Jae Moyer and I am a voter in Overland Park. I am a proud Kansan, and also a proud member of the LGBTQ+ community. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

It is not a transgender person's fault when lawmakers refuse to understand the difference between sex and gender, however, bills such as this seem to place that blame on their shoulders. Passing this legislation will absolutely harm members of a community already at-risk of higher rates of depression, self-harm, and suicide due to the way LGBTQ+ folks are targeted by legislation such as this.

The word "bully" is defined as "a person who habitually seeks to harm or intimidate those who they perceive as vulnerable". That will be the exact behavior of any lawmaker who votes for this bill.

The only Kansans directly impacted by this are the ones who certain lawmakers think they can use as pawns in an unnecessary culture war, with no Kansans being positively impacted apart from those who believe this will win them an election.

By design, this is not an issue that affects most Kansans. As a voter, I am extremely disappointed that this is what this body is choosing to focus on while costs go up and many Kansans are simply struggling to make ends meet.

The Kansas Legislature could choose to build services that will help our state thrive, but instead they seem to be obsessed with discriminating against minority communities. I implore every legislator on this committee and in the Legislature to search within their hearts and find the will to push back on bills that belittle others based on their identity and instead focus on ones that will benefit all their constituents.

Once again, I thank you for hearing my thoughts on this bill. I encourage you all to vote NO on the passage of HB 2426. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jae Moyer
(They/Them/Theirs)

MATTHEW NEUMANN
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY
LGBTQ FOUNDATION OF KANSAS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you so much for giving me the time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Matthew Neumann, and I am the Founder and Executive Director of the LGBTQ Foundation of Kansas. I am also a voter in Pawnee County/Larned. I am writing to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

HB 2426 poses significant risks to the rights and protections of LGBTQ+ individuals in our state. This bill undermines the progress we have made toward equality and inclusivity. It perpetuates discrimination and misunderstanding, impacting not just the LGBTQ+ community but all Kansans who value fairness and respect. As the Founder and Executive Director of the LGBTQ Foundation of Kansas, I have witnessed firsthand the challenges our community faces. We already struggle against stigma and discrimination in various aspects of life, including healthcare, education, and employment. HB 2426 would exacerbate these issues by allowing for further exclusionary practices. It's essential to recognize that every individual deserves to live without fear of discrimination based on their sexual orientation or gender identity. This bill is a step backward, away from the progress we have worked hard to achieve together. I urge you to consider the implications of this legislation and stand with the values of equality, compassion, and justice. Please vote NO on HB 2426. Thank you so much for your time and consideration in hearing my thoughts today. I appreciate the opportunity to share my perspective with you.

Thank you again for hearing my thoughts and concerns regarding HB 2426 today. I again encourage you to vote NO on the passage of HB 2426. Thank you.

Kelsey Ney

HB 2426 Opponent Written only

Carlisle Counseling LLC, owner and licensed clinical professional counselor

1/12/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you so much for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Kelsey Ney LCPC and I am a voter in JOHNSON COUNTY/Overland Park. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426

I specialize in providing counseling for the transgender community in Kansas. I have experienced first hand the trauma that transgender Kansans experience when they are unable to have correct documentation. Not only does incorrect documentation create undo psychological damage to transgender people it also causes them to be treated at best unfairly by the public and at worst be at risk of bodily harm. Correct documentation is a basic decency that saves the lives of vulnerable Kansans. I implore you to follow me in supporting the transgender community now more than ever, because Kansas should be a place where people can be safe from discrimination. Our Kansas forefathers fought against slavery and it is crucial that we follow in their footsteps and stay on the right side of history by supporting transgender people.

Once again, I thank you all for hearing my story and thoughts on this bill, and I encourage you all to vote no of the passage of HB 2426. Thank you. Sincerely, Kelsey Ney LCPC

Joan Nicholas
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY
Private Citizen
1/13/2026

"Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you so much for the opportunity to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you. My name is Joan Nicholas and I am a voter in Johnson County/Leawood. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426"

First, I ask you WHY? Why is the first legislation of the 2026 session stripping Kansans of their rights? Your constituents are having trouble paying their grocery bills and getting the health care they need, and THIS is what you find most important to address?

SHAMEFUL!

Updating a transgender person's birth certificate and drivers license is important for legal recognition, safety, and well-being. The trans community is already at a high risk for discrimination, updating these legal documents provides psychological affirmation, reduces distress, and offers vital protection against violence by ensuring consistent identification across all records.

As a Christian I'm taught to follow Jesus' example to love one another and work to improve the lives of all people. This bill does nothing to improve lives, in fact it does quite the opposite, and repercussions from this bill could put transgender lives at stake.

Thank you for considering my testimony. I encourage you to vote no on the passage of HB 2426. Thank you.

Carol Nistler
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY
PRIVATE CITIZEN
1/13/2016

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee,

My name is Carol Nistler and my husband and I are voters in Miami County, Kansas. I am writing today to ask that you and the committee vote NO on HB 2426.

This proposed bill is being led by the federal government and their allies to have Kansas become another state that doesn't recognize the diverse value of its citizens. This bill tells the rest of the country that Kansas wants to be known as a state that punishes their citizens if they don't fit a certain criteria. Being Trans is not a choice!

Our son is gay and we have been through this song and dance before with the Legislature. The end result was that our son decided to go to medical school in another state and has vowed to never return to Kansas to live. He has been gone 20 years now and Kansas has lost a very productive, contributing citizen. This was a person that could have contributed his gifts to this state and community but instead he chose to live and work in a state that recognizes his worth - not his sexuality.

If you decide to proceed with this act of blatant discrimination, then Kansas will continue to be viewed as a backward state. When our son was interviewing for medical school, Kansas, under Governor Brownback, was trying to adopt legislation that would criminalize certain kinds of medical research. The medical school interviewing committee asked our son about what was happening in the Legislature concerning the proposed restriction on medical research. Since our son was actively following what the legislature was doing, he explained what was going on why he was not pursuing his medical degree in Kansas. Once he was in med school, his fellow students would say to our son, "Hey Kansas! Your state is in the news again!"

The damage this bill would cause to us as citizens of this state is beyond comprehension. Let's strive for recognizing the beauty and value in each citizen and work toward unifying our strengths. We will ALL benefit from working toward the positive instead of the negative. Please vote NO on HB 2426.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol and Don Nistler

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee,

My name is Carol Nistler and my husband and I are voters in Miami County, Kansas. I am writing today to ask that you and the committee vote NO on HB 2426.

This proposed bill is being led by the federal government and their allies to have Kansas become another state that doesn't recognize the diverse value of its citizens. This bill tells the rest of the country that Kansas wants to be known as a state that punishes their citizens if they don't fit a certain criteria. Being Trans is not a choice!

Our son is gay and we have been through this song and dance before with the Legislature. The end result was that our son decided to go to medical school in another state and has vowed to never return to Kansas to live. He has been gone 20 years now and Kansas has lost a very productive, contributing citizen. This was a person that could have contributed his gifts to this

state and community but instead he chose to live and work in a state that recognizes his worth - not his sexuality.

If you decide to proceed with this act of blatant discrimination, then Kansas will continue to be viewed as a backward state. When our son was interviewing for medical school, Kansas, under Governor Brownback, was trying to adopt legislation that would criminalize certain kinds of medical research. The medical school interviewing committee asked our son about what was happening in the Legislature concerning the proposed restriction on medical research. Since our son was actively following what the legislature was doing, he explained what was going on why he was not pursuing his medical degree in Kansas. Once he was in med school, his fellow students would say to our son, "Hey Kansas! Your state is in the news again!"

The damage this bill would cause to us as citizens of this state is beyond comprehension. Let's strive for recognizing the beauty and value in each citizen and work toward unifying our strengths. We will ALL benefit from working toward the positive instead of the negative. Please vote NO on HB 2426.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol and Don Nistler

We thank you for your time and interest in hearing from your constituents. Please vote NO on HB 2426.

Yareli Ortiz
2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY
Private citizen
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you so much for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Yareli Ortiz and I am a voter in Shawnee County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426

Everyone should have the right to identity as who they are, not as who we want to force them to be. This is why I strongly oppose HB2426, as I want to ensure that Kansas is safe and welcoming to all Kansans

Once again, I thank you all for hearing my story and thoughts on this bill, and I encourage you all to vote no of the passage of HB 2426. Thank you.

Makenna Orton
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY
PRIVATE CITIZEN
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426. My name is Makenna Orton and I am a voter from Tecumseh, in Shawnee County. I strongly encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

The Kansas Department of Revenue has allowed Kansans to change their gender markers on drivers licenses since 2007. To change this now would be unnecessarily restrictive. The Kansas Court of Appeals panel in June 2025 overturned a ruling very similar to this bill. The panel found that there was INSUFFICIENT evidence given to suggest that allowing Kansans to change their gender markers on licenses would hinder law enforcement. In fact, Judge Karen Arnold-Burger wrote "the evidence was overwhelming that there was no harm." This emphasizes how unnecessary it is to restrict someone's gender marker to sex assigned at birth.

Again, thank you for your time, and I encourage you all to vote no on the passage of HB 2426. Thank you.

Charles Osman
HB 2426 Opponent Written only
Private Citizen
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and members of the Committee, thank you for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 today. My name is Charles Osman and I am a voter in Lyon county. I am writing to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

Transgender people have been updating the gender on their identity documents for decades, even centuries, without it being a problem. And in an era where it is illegal to discriminate between individuals on the basis of their sex, that marker is not really necessary anyway. Requiring transgender people to show their sex assigned at birth makes it a bit of useless trivia at best, akin to requiring a person to show their birth weight on their ID. If the point of identification documents is to verify a person's identity, their ID should match their current presentation.

Additionally, requiring transgender people to use inaccurate documentation in a political climate that is rife with violence and discrimination against them puts them in very real danger any time they must produce an identity document. These documents are necessary to open a bank account, get a job, get care at a hospital, go to school, or even get a library card. Inaccurate IDs put transgender Kansans in danger in all of these places, and will keep many from participating in these everyday parts of life.

This bill purports to protect women but does not do so. A man who wishes to harm a woman has no need to "pretend to be a woman" in order to do so. In fact, there's no reason for him to do so at all, given that our society currently treats rapists much better than it treats trans women. This bill protects no one, while putting many Kansans at risk for simply living their lives and preventing them from accessing many essential services.

Once again, thank you all for hearing my concerns about this bill. I encourage you all to vote NO on the passage of HB 2426. Thank you.

Alyssa Parks
HB 2426 Opponent Written only
Private citizen
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Alyssa Parks, and I am a voter in Wichita, Kansas. I implore the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

As a member of the LGBT community myself, and a friend and ally to MANY gender nonconforming people with great value to our great state, I cannot stand for our populace to be forced to disclose information that will certainly cause them to be treated with prejudice and ultimately come to mental or even severe physical harm through harassment and assault. By forcing our citizens to disclose the genitals they were born with that may not align with the way they choose to live their life, and has no effect on anyone aside from themselves or their loved ones, they will be disproportionately exposed to bullying, harassment, and potentially even physical harm by those who can not understand them. As we are all God's children, I would expect all of us to be given the same grace and privacy as anyone else.

Once again, thank you for taking my words as your constituent into serious consideration, on the behalf of the hundreds of abused and alienated people who wish to live their life in peace. I encourage you to vote NO on HB 2426. Thank you.

Charles Patrick
HB 2426 Opponent Written only
Private Citizen
1/12/2026

Thank you Chair Humpries and Members of the Committee for allowing me to share my thoughts on HB 2426. My name is Charles Patrick, I am a voter in Bonner Springs in Wyandotte Co. I am wrting today to urge the committee to vote No on HB 2426.

I am a father of a transgender person, I am also a retired Sheriff's dept. I understand how having the wrong gender on IDs, not just state IDs but birth certificates. Transgender people present the gender they feel is most authentic. It is not only confusing for officers, it is dangerous for everyone in emergency circumstances. Having the government decide what gender a person should be is a significant invasion of privacy. This will make life very difficult and dangerous for a majority of the citizenry.

Thank you again for listening to my testimony today. You Must vote No on HB 2426. Protect the citizens of Kansas, no matter what their gender. Thank you

Claudia Patrick
HB 2426 Opponent Written Only
Private Citizen
1/12/2026

Dear Chair Humphries and members of the Committee, thank you for giving me your time so I can share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Claudia Patrick, and I am in Bonner Springs in Wyandotte Co. I am writing to implore you to vote NO on HB 2426.

As a parent to a transgender person, I am writing to make an earnest appeal for you to vote no on HB 2426. To have on your ID the wrong gender for you is dehumanizing. I can not understand why the legislature is inserting itself into citizens personal identity. Not only is it not fair to the transgender person, but it is dangerous for police officers who see someone presenting as a man or women, but then their ID shows an incorrect designation.

If you vote Yes on this bill, you will be putting transgender people in harms way and making their life difficult, if not extremely dangerous. While this bill purports to protect women it, in fact, seriously endangers the lives of transgender Kansans by prohibiting individuals from accessing restrooms, domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, and other essential spaces and services.

Thank you again for taking the time to hear my thoughts on this bill. I pray that you vote No on the passage of HB 2426. Thank you.

Lindsay Paulson
HB2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY
PRIVATE CITIZEN
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you so much for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Lindsay and I am a voter in Douglas County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

I work with queer & trans youth in crisis. Policies like this is one of the driving factors of queer youth experiencing crisis. Our policymakers are quite literally killing folks with these targeted, malicious bills which is only a distraction for the work they SHOULD be addressing. To continue to watch our state legislature waste time, money and effort on hateful bills such as this one is infuriating. How about y'all show us that you care about Kansans for once.

VOTE NO! On HB 2426

Meaghan Petrowsky
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY
PRIVATE CITIZEN
1/12/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you for allowing me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 today. My name is Meaghan Petrowsky and I am a voter in Shawnee. I am writing today to encourage the members of the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

I vehemently oppose the passage of this bill because it will put transgender citizens of Kansas in danger. The denial of accurate identification documents is an unfair and discriminatory practice. It will prevent some of the most vulnerable members of our society from being able to accurately identify themselves for employment, interactions with government, and other purposes. I know from people in my life that the inability to obtain accurate identification is highly distressing to members of this community. I wish the legislature would focus its efforts on making life better for all Kansans.

Again, I thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts on this bill. I strongly encourage each of you to vote NO on the passage of HB 2426.

Calvert Pfannenstiel
HB 2426 Opponent Written Only
Private Citizen
1/12/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you so much for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Calvert Pfannenstiel and I am a voter in Douglas County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426

This bill targets a protected group, and makes it more difficult for them to live their lives freely, in the way that they choose. I have dear friends who are trans, and not allowing them to have the ability to choose the gender that is most affirming to them puts them at risk of discrimination and abuse any time they are required to use identification.

Once again, I thank you all for hearing my story and thoughts on this bill, and I encourage you all to vote no of the passage of HB 2426. Thank you.

Angelica Plata
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY
Private Citizen
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, I want to thank you all for giving me the chance to share this testimony before you today regarding HB 2426. My name is Angelica Yosveline Plata, a constituent in Dodge City, Ford County, Kansas. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on this bill.

People's identities are important to them, and I'm sure yours is important to you. You present yourself a certain way, you dress a certain way, you do your hair in a certain way, all to be perceived in a certain way. Just as the people that this bill will affect do.

Bodily autonomy is an integral part of our day-to-day lives for all of us. Taking that bodily autonomy away from transgender Kansans is morally reprehensible. This autonomy prevents harassment that could arise for these Kansans should this bill be passed, as simply not having their markers changed to represent what they identify will help reinforce the feelings of distress and discomfort that come with having their dysphoria. People already have perceptions of transgender people as "not actually" themselves, and sometimes changing the paperwork is what it takes for people to reconsider those perceptions and respect them as human beings who have the right to their bodily autonomy and have the right to be perceived how they want to present.

Furthermore, I would like to remind the members of the committee that just in October 2025, the Kansas Supreme Court already voted on the issue of gender markers on Kansas driver's licenses. Is it really sustainable to ask the Department of Motor Vehicles to reprocess driver's licenses that have already been changed, undoing a lot of work? Is it fair for you to ask the Office of Vital Statistics, which has likely has a backlog of hundreds of cases, to reverse work already done? Is it worth all the time and resources to reverse what came before when we have other issues to attend to?

I am not coming to you as a lobbyist or as an advocate, I am coming to you as a constituent you have chosen to represent. So I heavily encourage you to represent us, not only because it's your job, but because people like my brother are counting on you to make the choice that would keep him, and others like him, safe.

In closing, I urge you to vote against HB 2426. Thank you all so much for your time, and I hope you consider this testimony in your decision.

Cat Poland
HB 2426 Opponent Written Only
Private Citizen
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you so much for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Cat Poland and I am a voter in Hutchinson, KS (Reno County). I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

If you asked the average Kansan which issue was most pressing to them, I would imagine that around 98% would list items such as "affordable healthcare, job security, housing, childcare, infrastructure, or education." These are REAL issues impacting the MAJORITY of Kansans. So who are the other 2%? That number represents approximately how many transgender people currently call Kansas home. While this number is small, it's not insignificant, because no human's dignity is insignificant.

HB 2426 would harass, target and expose transgender Kansans to possible discrimination or abuse. Transgender Kansans are wonderful friends, sisters, brothers, sons, daughters, nieces, nephews, fathers, mothers, cousins, employees, employers, students, and much more. While much fear mongering has been made, the numbers don't lie. Transgender people are FAR LESS likely to be attacking people in bathrooms, abusing children, or causing harm than the average citizen. In fact, they are FAR MORE likely to be the victim of attacks, abuse, or harm.

Real, hardworking Kansans don't have enough time in their day to care what their neighbor genitals look like. They're too busy working, taking care of their kids, taking care of their parents, taking care of their community, and being genuinely good people. In person, one on one, Kansans have been incredibly kind and gracious to my family, which happens to include a transgender person. It's only bills like these that are hurtful, and give us reason to want to flee the state we've called home for generations.

I ask you to rise above the fear mongering and vote NO on HB 2426. We Kansans are practical people. We know when our time is being wasted, and when we're being distracted from real issues we're facing. HB 2426 harms a small number of hard-working Kansans who just want to be productive citizens, and it doesn't benefit the majority of Kansans. It's a waste of resources, and Kansas deserves better than that.

Once again, I thank you all for hearing my story and thoughts on this bill, and I encourage you all to vote NO of the passage of HB 2426. Thank you.

Maria K Ponce
HB 2426 Opponent Written only
Private citizen
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you so much for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Maria and I am a voter in Sedgwick County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

This proposed legislation poses a significant risk of detrimental outcomes. We urge you to prioritize the protection of vulnerable communities within Kansas and refrain from promoting inaccurate and harmful information that could further marginalize and discriminate against transgender Kansans.

Once again, I thank you all for hearing my story and thoughts on this bill, and I encourage you all to vote no of the passage of HB 2426. Thank you.

Alison Poore
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY
PRIVATE CITIZEN
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you so much for the time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 today. My name is Alison Poore a voter in Sedgwick County and I am writing to encourage the committee to please vote no on the damaging bill HB 2426.

Transgender people in our state and communities face more political discrimination and violence than most of us will ever understand. It is extremely important to me that every single Kansan feels safe and this is especially important for the transgender community which is already at higher risks of discrimination. This bill will create risk every time a transgender Kansan has to show their ID. A simple action that is needed for so many basic human activities. Applying to rent a house, applying for a job, getting insurance, even picking up a package from the post office. IDs representing the gender identity they express helps keep them safe and dignified. This is very basic respect and decency.

Thank you for hearing my thoughts and again I encourage you to help end the war on our transgender communities and vote no of the passage of HB 2426. Thank you.