

Samiya Rasheed  
HB 2426 Opponent Written only  
Private Citizen  
1/13/2026

Thank you members of the committee and chair Humphries. I'm Samiya Rasheed, a voter in Douglas County, and I am writing to ask that you all vote NO on HB 2426.

Redefining gender on official documents in Kansas to only reflect the gender assigned at birth overlooks the needs and reality that many Kansans have day to day. Many of my loved ones are transgender or intersex and have been able to adjust their documentation and appearance to make themselves happier and more fulfilled people. Reverting documentation to only reflect gender assigned at birth may open my dearest friends to unwanted attention, discrimination, or questioning well into adulthood. Especially given the fact that transgender identity is not a protected class from discrimination yet.

Even beyond the people that I know personally—I've spent a few years as a volunteer answering the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. The center in Lawrence answers calls from all over Kansas. More than once, while I talked with people about how they could see themselves staying safe that night and things that still bring them hope and attachment to life, people have discussed the newfound ability to change their documentation from the gender they were born with as a motivation to keep living. The tools that the state of Kansas has provided to transgender Kansans to legally transition and align their drivers license to their identity are powerful. Keeping that ability can be genuinely life saving.

To add one more dimension, my history comes from study psychology and biology. Very early into studying developmental biology, we found that about 1% of the world is intersex. Many intersex individuals do not know that or cannot medically discover this until well into their life—making sex at birth undeniably inaccurate. Intersex people and transgender people need the flexibility to amend the gender on their documentation because it IS inaccurate later in life. This flexibility is an incredibly powerful tool to allow the Kansans that you care for and represent to live a more fulfilled life, shielded from many forms of discrimination.

That is why I ask you all the vote no on the passage of HB 2426. Thank you very much for your time.

Christopher Rayl  
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 Christopher Rayl and I am a voter in Wichita. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426

I am writing as a Kansas resident to respectfully express my opposition to the bill that would redefine "gender" exclusively as "biological sex." I appreciate the legislature's responsibility to provide clarity in law, but I am concerned that this change would create more confusion and harm than it resolves.

Gender is a complex concept that, in practice, has long been understood in medicine, education, and law to include social and personal identity in addition to biology. Replacing this established understanding with a single, rigid definition risks ignoring the lived realities of many Kansans and could lead to unintended consequences across a wide range of policies, from healthcare and education to employment and public accommodations.

I am also concerned that this redefinition could expose the state, schools, and local governments to increased legal challenges. Courts, federal agencies, and many existing statutes already recognize distinctions between sex and gender identity. A definition that conflicts with these frameworks may create uncertainty for institutions trying to comply with both state and federal law, potentially increasing costs to taxpayers.

Most importantly, I worry about the human impact. Laws send a message about who is recognized and protected by our state. A definition that excludes or marginalizes transgender and gender-diverse Kansans may make it harder for them to participate fully and safely in everyday life, which runs counter to the values of fairness, dignity, and personal freedom that many of us associate with Kansas.

I respectfully urge you to consider the broad legal, practical, and human consequences of this bill and to seek approaches that protect clarity in law without harming or excluding members of our community. Thank you for your time, your service, and your willingness to consider the perspectives of your constituents.

Thank you again to the committee for your time, careful consideration, and public service. I respectfully reiterate my opposition to this bill and urge you to consider its far-reaching legal and human consequences. I hope you will choose a path that upholds clarity in law while also respecting the dignity, safety, and inclusion of all Kansans. I appreciate the opportunity to share my perspective and ask that you give it thoughtful consideration as you move forward.

Rebecca  
HB 2426 Susan Humphrey Written Only  
on behalf of my clients  
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, my name is Rebecca and I am a Social Worker and voter in the state of Kansas. I am writing you to vote NO on HB 2426

As a social worker I have worked with all populations. I have also received a Masters degree in Social Worker and I am licensed by the BSRB in Kansas. This bill will lead to harm to Kansas citizens, more than you know. Being trans is not a choice. Removing the ability to change sex on a state ID will not prevent trans people from existing, but it will lead to discrimination of people who are transgender as they are already experiencing increased undue harm, harassment, and more due to how they were born.

I encourage you to vote no on bill HB 2426 to protect Kansas citizens.

Karen Leed Reed  
HB2426 Opponent Written Only  
Private Citizen  
1/13/2026

Members of the committee and Chair Humphries, I appreciate your time. I would like to give my thoughts on HB 2426. My name is Karen Reed and I am a voter in Ottawa County in Minneapolis KS. I am writing today to encourage you to vote NO on HB 2426

I am the bonus parent of my transgender son I have fully passing transgender friends. I feel like the governing body making laws on these issues doesn't understand the realities of how these bills impact the lives of the Kansan's that live them. These bills make citizens feel unsafe. They harm mental health and wellbeing, they drive people to move away, they cause complete confusion on a bureaucratic level. Our government has a responsibility to take care of citizens and a scope of what is their responsibility. Defining a persons gender is not the role of the government. Ensuring every citizen has a the best possible state to live in is. Focusing on transgender markers takes away time and resources from the things that can grow our state and make it a better place to live. As a Kansan I want a government that chooses to make this state a better place to live, following our history of freedom and our dedication to letting Kansans be independent, please focus on improving our state and vote no on this bill.

Thank you for your time and reading my thoughts. I encourage you to vote no on yhe passage if HB2426.

Rachel M. Reed  
HB2426 Opponent Written Only  
Private Citizen  
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, I thank you so much for allowing me the time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Rachel Marie Reed (Rachel Reed) and I am a voter in Douglas County, Kansas, City of Lawrence. I am writing today to ask the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

I oppose HB 2426 and I think KS legislators should vote against the bill for a number of reasons, too many to enumerate here.

First, for reasons I have never understood there has been a constant attack against the LGB TQ+ community in Kansas; religion being the primary reason. To be honest, those reasons come from Leviticus, which Jesus overthrew when he arrived. Jesus also said nothing against LGBTQ+ people, but many don't believe that, even though it's true. Hence, based on that the legislature should not approve HB 2426.

Second, HB 2426 forces Compelled Speech which violates the 1st amendment of the US Constitution. The compelled speech doctrine sets out the principle that the government cannot force an individual or group to support certain expression. Thus, the First Amendment not only limits the government from punishing a person for his speech, it also prevents the government from punishing a person for refusing to articulate, advocate, or adhere to the government's approved messages. The approved messages are those saying a trans woman saying she's a man. That is in fact forced speech.

In essence HB2426 asks for compelled speech. I am a 72 y/o trans woman and want my society to communicate. This system was developed by my wife. Do you want it gone?

Once Again, I thank you all for hearing my story and thought on this bill and I encourage you all to vote on the passage HB 2426 Thank You

Robin Reynolds  
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY  
PRIVATE CITIZEN  
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, I want to let you know that I appreciate you taking the time to read my thoughts on HB 2426. My name is Robin Reynolds and I am a voter in District 55 and lifelong resident of Topeka, KS. I am writing this testimony because I am strongly opposed to HB 2426 and its attempts to bar transgender people from changing their gender marker on their on their licenses.

As I stated above, I am a lifelong resident of the state of Kansas. I grew up here and chose to continue living here as an adult. There are dozens of people I care deeply about living and working across this state. I've been a freelancer in this state for the better part of a decade now and that is only partial due to my own choice. I have been out as trans since 2017. Shortly after, I graduated college and began a more serious job search. My ID made it so every potential employer knew that I was transgender. Over time, I lost hope in my job search and took to freelance work. I have built a thriving career from this work but friends of mine are not so lucky to have freelance work to fall back on. A close friend of mine has not been able to find work for the past year since being let go from a job she had been at for 10 years. The only thing that has changed for them is the climate towards openly trans individuals through bills like these. This bill will actively endanger me and many of my friends by baring us from the resources, services, and public life in Kansas. It will continue to diminish our standing for jobs and economic growth. The Kansas Legislature should be protecting their citizens from an overreach like this bill.

Me and my spouse have chosen to build our life in this beautiful state. But bills like these make it more and more difficult for us to live our life safely here. Please, for the wellbeing of transgender residents of Kansas, vote NO on HB 2426. Thank you again for the time you took to read my testimony.

REV. ARICLES ROBY  
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY  
PRIVATE CITIZEN  
1/13/2026

Chukma, hello. Salhalchifoat Aricles Roby. My name is Aricles Roby Chikasha saya. I am Chickasaw. 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. Again my name is Aricles Roby and I am a constituent in Topeka, Shawnee County KS I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

As a Chickasaw, Indigenous two-spirit person, I have served my community in various roles, including personal guidance, resource connections, and advocacy for marginalized voices. Today, I submit for your consideration my opinions regarding proposed legislation, which will absolutely affect the targeted constituents and, in fact, the larger community. Two major federal lawsuits, *Orr v. Trump* and *Schlacter v. U.S. Department of State*, are actively challenging the Trump administration's passport policy stemming from executive orders in 2025 which seek to remove all X gender designations and revert all transgender citizens' documentation to match birth records. Many such documents have been reverted, as this policy outlines, without a public policy notice or hearing and without consideration to the real harm to the citizens affected. As these legal challenges, among others focused on rights of transgender Americans, are decided at the federal level, making these choices to further degrade the rights of transgender Kansans, and how this affects families, and our communities. These legal challenges, like others brought regarding similar Kansas measures, have cost the state and citizens money, time, and diminished our standing for jobs, economic growth, and overall wellbeing. I urge the committee to consider all of these effects before making further decisions on this matter.

Whereas other states choose to protect citizens from detrimental overreach, proposed legislation like this not only heightens affected Kansans' risks of harassment, discrimination, and violence—it also opens them to increased risk and barriers to essential services like housing, food, medical and mental health care, and voting. It also forces disclosure of private information, further adding to distress. Added to these issues the chill to potential business, professional, and academic interest in Kansas and Kansas institutions, and the overall effect not only proves a safety and health hazard, but also a hazard to the success of Kansas as a whole.

This type of legislation is not only unwelcome by a great many Kansans, it lacks merit toward improvement and overall quality of life for Kansans. As such, I pray that this committee, and indeed the larger body, sees fit to discontinue motion along this destructive path. Thank you for listening. Please vote no, vote against HB 2426.

Rev. Aricles Roby  
Topeka, KS

Janet Roecker  
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 Janet Roecker and I am a voter in Lawrence. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426

We must protect the safety of our transgender community members who currently fear for their safety.

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

Mo Roecker  
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY  
PRIVATE CITIZEN  
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, I greatly appreciate the opportunity to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you to do. My name is Mo Roecker and I am a voter in Douglas County. I am writing to you today to strongly encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

I oppose this bill because it prioritizes an issue that does not improve Kansans' lives in any significant or tangible way. The only function of this bill is to create undo distress and difficulty to the lives of many Kansans. This narrow definition of gender which does not align with common scientific knowledge and presents Kansas as a state that does not value the wellbeing of its residents and does not care to acknowledge science. It is deeply disappointing to see many trans Kansans, including myself, being directly and repeatedly attacked through legislation session after session. This policy does not make Kansas safer, healthier, happier, or more prosperous. It endangers and belittles Kansans and wastes the time of State resources.

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

LEXIE ROKEY  
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY  
PRIVATE CITIZEN  
1/12/2026

Thank you for granting me the opportunity to share my thoughts on HB 2426

It is so important to vote against this bill. Trans people have been around for centuries, they are not going anywhere no matter what legislation you put forward and this will only lead to further disenfranchise trans people who already suffer from higher rates of homelessness and abuse compared to cisgender people. Being trans is not a choice, but the kindness we extend to people is a choice.

Trans people and intersex children have always existed and will continue to exist. Please consider their best interest before the fears of the loud few. Thank you.

Rachel Roth  
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. My name is Rachel Roth and I am a voter in Wichita. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

With respect, this bill is disingenuous. Instead of protecting women, it will cause direct harm to me and people that I love. There are actions that could be taken to protect women in good faith, but forcing inaccurate gender definitions only endangers my trans loved ones and puts women—and girls—at risk of unnecessary scrutiny by bad actors.

I want trans women in women's shelters. I want trans women in the women's bathroom. I want women who identify as women in the spaces meant for women, not humiliated, excluded from public spaces, and cast out—or worse, cast into men's spaces. What good does humiliation and exclusion do?

I have known many trans Kansans over the last decade: in friendships, at work, as customers. Gender identities are not ill-intentioned criminal behaviors to be legislated away. Enough is enough. Let trans Kansans live in peace, and consider how we might protect their peace instead.

Thank you again for hearing my story and thoughts on this bill. This means a great deal to me, and I hope you will have the compassion to vote no on the passage of HB 2426.

AVERY ROWLAND  
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY  
PRIVATE CITIZEN  
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you for allowing me to share my concerns on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Avery Rowland and I am a voter in Crawford County - Girard. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426

I am a proud transgender woman. Having my legal documents that match my persona are invaluable to my physical safety. I am years into my transition and no longer look like my former self. Simply having "M" on my driver's license put me in danger. When I corrected my driver's license last fall I felt a huge sense of relief.

Reverting these documents is waste of taxpayer time and money. Kansas families need job opportunities, economic growth, good schools, access to rural healthcare, and relief from property taxes. Why focus your time and energy on 1% of the population when you were elected to serve 100% of the population? Why pick on the smallest minority? Why not enact real, meaningful change in Kansas that impacts all families.

I would like to thank you for hearing my thoughts on this bill today. I encourage this committee to vote NO on the passage of HB 2426. Thank You.

Sincerely,

Avery Rowland - she/her

Neva Rowland  
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY  
PRIVATE CITIZEN  
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you for allowing me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Neva Rowland and I am a voter in Girard, Crawford County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote no on HB 2426.

I oppose this bill because it is disingenuous and discriminatory against Kansans who wish to live their lives in peace. Whether you choose to see them or not, transgender people are real Kansans. Transgender people are our neighbors. Transgender people are our friends. They were born here. They live here. They work here. They pay taxes. They vote. Right now, there is no law in Kansas that protects them from discriminatory practices in the workplace or in public. This bill increases the risk and danger transgender people face on a daily basis from inflamed rhetoric and lies coming from state leadership in the form of proposed bills such as this one. I ask you to put aside your fear and choose love.

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

Emily Rude  
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY  
Private Citizen  
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you for taking the time to hear my concerns about HB 2426 with you. My name is Emily Rude, and I am a voter in the Walnut H69 precinct in Saline County. I write today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

As I'm sure you all are aware, affordability, safety, and access to healthcare are the type of real day-to-day issues that concern Kansas voters. We do not need and do not want time and resources wasted to put a very small minority of Kansans—nonetheless our friends, family, and neighbors—in a tough spot when there are so many other, more worthy issues to attend to. This country is in trouble, and we look to our leadership to unite and protect us. Stripping the dignity and rights of people who really just want to mind their business is not going to help anyone feel like America is great, or more free, or any of the things we ought to be. Instead, passage of this bill would be one more thing that will devastate people already under duress, and signal to the rest of us that our rights are at stake if we should happen not to fit the particular ideological mold of the party in power. I don't believe this bill is what most Kansans have in mind when they sing about the land of the free and home of the brave. Or when they are comparing prices at the grocery store. Or when they just want to have a boring news cycle for a change and not have to worry about who will be the next scapegoat. Yes, I do know personally, and have worked alongside people who are trans. They're just trying to live, as far as I can tell. Just like the rest of us. I also happen to be a biology professor who teaches genetics, among other things. Ask any biologist: life is complicated. Far more complicated than the definitions put forth in this bill would suggest. They do not come from biology. They come from cultural tradition. We should at least be honest about that.

Again, thank you for hearing my thoughts on this bill with an open mind and a willingness to serve your constituents as they are, with the real concerns that they actually have. Thank you for considering that what Kansans need is for something to be done about the cost of living, not for more resources to be spent on persecuting another minority. Kansas women will be just fine without this bill—if we can turn our attention to more pressing matters. Once again, I encourage you all to vote NO of the passage of HB 2426. Thank you.

Lucas Ryan  
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY  
Private Citizen  
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts on HB 2426.

Frankly, I am appalled. As elected representatives, you are endowed with the responsibility of protecting all Kansans. Instead, you are choosing to enable one faction of Kansans to wage war on a smaller, less powerful faction. Even allowing this bill to proceed to a hearing is an affront to the spirit of American government.

This bill, and the others like it that have littered our legislature's halls, are nothing but direct attacks on a population that the legislators behind the bills refuse to engage with in good faith. Fueled by horror stories that come from the realm of urban legend, the Kansas legislature is choosing to spend the valuable time of the judiciary committee persecuting Kansans instead of addressing the very real issues within our judicial system.

To introduce this bill in the name of the committee devoted to justice is a special brand of insult. The judicial system is built on the principals of equity and making whole damage caused to an individual. I am incredibly curious as to how targeting a class of individuals who want nothing ore than to live their lives as their true selves is remotely in line with these values.

I strongly encourage you to shut this bill down, and any others that may be introduced targeting this vulnerable populations. Legislation like this has been directly linked to trans individuals committing suicide as teens. Passing it will cause the deaths of several Kansan constituents who you are sworn to uplift. In a time where division is escalating, violence is spreading, and tragedy is the norm, I beg you to lay down the arms and seek peace between the communities in Kansas instead of leading the charge into conflict.

Thank you for allowing me to share my thoughts, I know the honorable members of the committee desire a Kansas where we are all able to live our lives in peace.I encourage you to vote no on HB 2426.

Sincerely,  
Lucas Ryan

Melissa Sabin  
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY  
Private Citizen  
1/12/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts on HB 2426. My name is Melissa Sabin, and I am a voter in the City of Shawnee in Johnson County. I am also the mother of a disabled child and a healthcare advocate. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

I am submitting this testimony from the perspective of the disability community and with deep concern about the precedent this bill sets. Disabled families are acutely aware of what happens when lawmakers attempt to impose rigid legal definitions onto complex medical and human realities. Disabilities do not present uniformly, bodies do not function identically, and medical needs rarely fit neatly into statute. When the state substitutes ideology or broad legal definitions for individualized medical judgment, the result is confusion, exclusion, and unintended harm.

This concern is heightened by the broader health policy context in Kansas. In this upcoming session, lawmakers have advanced proposals expanding access to off-label and unproven treatments for COVID-19 under the banner of “healthcare freedom,” emphasizing that patients and families—not the government—should make medical decisions in consultation with their providers. Regardless of where one stands on those proposals, the principle being asserted is clear: limited government involvement in personal medical decisions.

HB 2426 moves in the opposite direction. It asks the state to step into deeply personal and medically complex matters and impose narrow definitions that do not reflect medical reality. From a disability perspective, this inconsistency is troubling. Disabled people already live with the consequences of laws that misunderstand medical complexity and override clinical expertise. When healthcare freedom is defended in one context but restricted in another, it sends a message that freedom is conditional and selectively applied.

Disability communities understand that biological variation is real. Many Kansans—including disabled individuals, intersex people, and gender-diverse individuals—rely on ongoing medical care and trusted relationships with providers. Laws that attempt to legislate identity or biology create uncertainty for healthcare systems, schools, and service providers, increase legal and administrative burdens, and ultimately cost taxpayers more through enforcement and litigation.

If Kansas is committed to healthcare freedom, limited government, and respect for medical expertise, those principles must be applied consistently. Culture-war legislation does not improve health outcomes, strengthen families, or protect communities. It diverts time and public resources away from issues Kansans repeatedly say matter most—access to healthcare, special education staffing, disability services, housing, and economic stability.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to oppose HB 2426.

Thank you.

TAIA SARAZOV  
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. My name is Taia Sarazov and I am a voter in Kansas City, Kansas. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

This bill wants to make pulling out an id a dangerous act. It will justify terrorism and hurt people I love. Trans people deserve laws that protect them, not violate them.

Thank you for hearing my comments, and I encourage you all to vote no on the passage of HB 2426

Allan Saylor  
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY  
PRIVATE CITIZEN  
1/12/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you. My name is Allan Saylor and I am a voter in Wichita, Sedgwick County. I am write you today to encourage the committee to emphatically vote NO on HB 2426

HB 2426, as written, targets an incredibly vulnerable segment of Kansans. Our transgender, non-binary, and intersex residents are already losing protections on all sides, this bill only further endangers them. Invalidating people's personal records, thus forcing them through the long and expensive process of having them re-issued with forced inaccuracies, does absolutely nothing to "protect women and girls", as SB 180 purportedly intended. It only serves to deny vulnerable Kansas residents their desperately needed access to everything from housing to medical care to employment. I am unsure if you personally know or love anyone in your lives who exist outside of the rigid gender binary imagined by this legislation, but I am blessed to count transgender and non-binary individuals among my family, friends, and the public I work to serve every day. All Kansans deserve the right to exist freely and safely in our state without fear of gender-based harassment or discrimination. I implore you, we have got to stop this needless focus on the personal, private business of others and their identities. With many Kansas families, businesses, farmers, and schools facing real crises, the time and resources of our legislature could surely be put to far better use.

Once again, I thank you all for hearing my thoughts on this bill. I encourage you all to vote down HB 2426. Your constituents need your focus on the real issues. Thank you."

Becky Saylor  
HB2426 Opponent WRITTEN ONLY  
Private citizen  
1/13/2026

Thank you for the opportunity to leave a brief statement with you. My name is Becky Saylor and I am a voter in Wichita, Sedgwick County. I would like to request the committee vote NO on HB 2426.

I am acquainted with a number of transgender individuals in our local community right here in Kansas, some of whom I count among my close friends. I know there is a concern by some in our statehouse that trans individuals pose a threat to the greater society, however, I can tell you that these individuals are as ordinary as you or I. The trans people I know simply want to live peacefully and be able to carry on with life without fear of being targeted and being harmed simply for existing. The hyperfixation on gender conformity, including this bill, will not protect or improve the well-being of society nor any cisgendered persons; it will serve EXCLUSIVELY to further harm an already extremely vulnerable population. It bears repeating - there is absolutely no benefit to anyone in passing this bill, and there is great harm to be done to vulnerable individuals who are already relegated to the fringes of society.

I would respectfully request that the committee remove their blinders and STOP zeroing in on a small community as a sudden scapegoat for all of society's ails. Please redirect your efforts to those that would materially impact every Kansan on a daily basis such as funding our schools, increasing the minimum wage, or combatting predatory inflation to name a few.

Thank you again for your consideration. I encourage you all to vote no on the passage of HB 2426.

ROWAN SCHEURING  
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY  
PRIVATE CITIZEN  
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts on HB 2426. My name is Rowan Scheuring and I am a voter in Douglas county. I am writing today to ask that you please vote NO on HB 2426.

This bill will not do anything to protect women and will unnecessarily subject Kansans to scrutiny as they attempt to access public services, apply for jobs, and go about their essential life activities that require showing identification. I was assigned female at birth and this bill would only be detrimental to me and people in my community. The definition of gender proposed in this bill is inaccurate and will be harmful if put into law.

Thank you all again for taking the time to hear my thoughts on HB2426. Thank you.

January 12, 2026  
Kansas HB 2426

Kansas House Judiciary Committee members,

I am writing in opposition to HB 2426 and its aim to control gender marker decision making on IDs for Kansans. This is not the role of the state government and runs contrary to the idea of local control or smaller government.

A bill such as this targets a very small group of people already at risk of harassment and self harm, and uses them to score political points with a base of voters. This bill does not benefit Kansans in any way, and it does not affect the vast majority of residents in the state.

There are significant economic and educational factors at play in Kansas. This bill is a waste of taxpayer time, when it does nothing to address the shortfall in public education funding for special education, or to address the number of Kansans in economic crisis due to inflation and tariffs. That is the job of the state legislature, not to micromanage the personal lives of a group of people for political theater. I strongly urge you not to pass this bill out of committee, so that you and the House can focus on more critical issues affecting the everyday lives of Kansans.

Thank you,  
Heather Schroer

Rebecca Sellers  
HB 2426 Opponent Written only  
Private Citizen  
1/13/2026

Thank you to the Committee and Chair Humphries for considering my thoughts on HB 2426 with you. I am Rebecca Sellers, a voter in Sedgwick County, and I respectfully ask that you consider voting NO on HB 2426.

I oppose this bill because it is discriminatory and dangerous. It targets the basic rights of a specific group of people only, the very definition of segregation. It places Kansas citizens, the very people you are pledging to serve, in harms way by denying them safe spaces. Transgender individuals are far more at risk of harm compared to the situations you are claiming will benefit women. As a voter, I want my representatives to spend time on matters that have broad and positive impact. This bill does the opposite in wasting valuable state resources on things like birth certificates and bathrooms.

Thank you again for the opportunity to share my thoughts with you, and I ask you to vote no on HB 2426. Thank you for your time.

Christian Sinclair  
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY  
Private Citizen  
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the House Judiciary Committee, my name is Christian Sinclair, MD, and I am a voter living in Shawnee, KS. I share my written testimony below and encourage you to vote NO on HB 2426.

As a palliative care physician, I get to meet many people from across Kansas living with serious illness, recognizing that their illness means they may have a shorter time to live than anyone would hope or plan for. They share so much of their life experience. I see my patients jump through so many bureaucratic hoops which strip away their dignity and humanity. I hear their stories up close and when you spend time with people, you begin to see how administrative harm is one of the most demoralizing acts our society can wield, with those who create it safely hidden behind simple words on paper.

Therefore, in reading HB 2426 and seeing the consequences it is plain to see this is a bill that creates government sanctioned harm to the residents of Kansas through more government red tape. It is especially damaging in that it discriminates broadly with a particularly heavy weight placed on the trans, intersex and gender diverse individuals. They are our neighbors, our co-workers, our friends, members of our congregations, our family. And when our government chooses to harm the most vulnerable communities, it harms all of us because it strips our dignity. It harms all of us because it degrades our humanity. HB 2426 does not represent Kansas, because we live in a place where we respect and value everyone around us.

There are so many other important matters facing residents of Kansas today, that your committee needs to discuss and debate. This bill does not help, it harms. This bill does not clarify, it confuses. Please spend your time wisely and vote HB 2426 down so your time is not wasted.

In conclusion, thank you for earnest consideration of this testimony and I encourage you to all vote no on the passage of HB 2425. Thank you.

Shannon Skoglund  
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY  
Private Citizen  
1/13/2026

Chair and Members: my name is Shannon Skoglund, and I am a voter in Shawnee, KS. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426

This bill will help no one, and does not deserve the time, focus, or support of this body. Our legislators should be focusing on problems that affect Kansans everyday. Reissuing driver's licenses only wastes resources that can be better used in these difficult times.

Thank you for your time. Please vote no.

Vivian Slater  
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY  
PRIVATE CITIZEN  
1/13/2026

Chairman Humphries and Members of this Community, thank you for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB2426 with you today. I am Vivian Slater and I am a voter in Mission Kansas in Johnson County. I'm writing you today to encourage the committee to vote no on HB 2426.

While most people recognize only two sexes using two chromosomes (XY for males, XX for females), there are other variations that do not fit into those categories (XXY for Klinefelter syndrome or XO Turner syndrome as examples).

At this point in my life, I know several people who identify as a different gender than what their chromosomes indicate. This bill would harm those people, yet again, by changing their birth certificates and drivers licenses back to the sex/gender as they were identified at birth. This would cause them additional harm mentally and cause a rise in the need for mental health care.

For these reasons, I oppose this bill as it would change Kansas law, making sex and gender the same for purposes of birth certificates and identification on drivers licenses AT A MINIMUM.

Again, thank you for reading my story and thoughts on this bill and once again I encourage you all to vote no on the passage of HB 2426. Thank you very much for your time.

Caroline Slavin  
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 Caroline Slavin and I am a voter in Lawrence. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426

There is no law that protects transgender Kansans from discrimination and this bill increases that risk. This policy is disingenuous and dangerous to many Kansans, including members of the LGBTQ+ community. 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. As a cis-born female, I oppose this bill and am appalled that protection for women is being used as an argument to push it through.

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.

Isaiah Smith  
HB 2426 Opponent Written Only  
Private Citizen  
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you for allowing me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426. My name is Isaiah Smith and I am a voter in Harvey County, North Newton. I am writing to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

Growing up, I never had the space to be able to express my gender identity without the fear of harassment or violence. I always conformed into what the social norm was, and I did not enjoy a lot of my childhood because of it. However, these past couple of years at my college, I have learned the importance of being able to express my true authentic self. I identify as gender non-conforming and queer, and it is laws like the one HB 2426 opposes, that make me feel validated. Right now, I am comfortable having M on my drivers license and other legal documents, but that does not mean that these laws do not affect me. In the future, I would want the option to be able to change my gender marker if I want to. It is options like these that gives me hope. But the passage of HB 2426 will make thousands of Kansans feel hopeless.

Gender markers are important because it validates an individuals identity. Getting a gender marker change does not hurt anyone or anything. Alternatively, it could save lives. HB 2426 will not only hurt the hundreds of Kansans who would have to obtain new legal documents with a gender that does not line up with how they identify, but also thousands of Kansans who identify as LGBTQ+.

I sincerely urge each and every one of you to say NO to HB 2426. Again, thank you for hearing my story and opinions on the bill.

Jeanne Smith  
HB2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY  
Myself - a semi-retired business owner  
1/13/2026

Thank you for your consideration from all points of view. I am a 73 year old business owner/employer celebrating my 50th year as owner of a bicycle shop. I am also a trans woman.

My comment to HB 2426 regarding forced changing of sex markers to match declared and birth sex, as amended tonight.

The purpose of a driver's license is a permit to drive a car but it is also used as identification. In the past two years my 78 year old loved one has quit driving. She is in memory care now and her Drivers license has been replaced with a State ID. So, a driver's licence is equally important as an ID as it is a licencing for automobile permit.

We show our ID to people for one purpose, so the person who is requesting or demanding it may quickly confirm who we are.

On our ID we self-report these:

Our legal name.

Our weight

Our age

Our hair color

Our sex

and provide a current photo.

The government never requires or even asks us to show our genitals except in prisons, or if joining the military, but law abiding civilians have to show our IDs thousands of times over a lifetime. What possible value is genital identification? This proposed rule is punishment for the non-crime living one's soul honestly and openly in society.

As a business owner I sometimes request an ID to prevent theft or fraud. This is an uncomfortable situation. I want to look at the ID quickly and determine if the person is the person on the ID. If that ID listed the person's name at birth, weight at birth, age at birth, hair color at birth, or sex at birth, and if the photo was their photo at birth. This in ID would be less, not more, accurate for the purpose of identification. It would make the job of the person looking at the id to connect it to the person in front of them more difficult if not impossible. You have lost the purpose of an ID!

HB 2046 seems to assume all Kansas licensees were born in Kansas but hundreds if not more will have legally changed birth certificates from other states with no legal path to revision back as the new birth certificate conditions have been met and can not be medically done even if not forced. Supporters of HB 2046 may relish the problems this will cause for individuals but really how far afield has this law taken this issue?

This rule, if adopted it would add cost to the state of Kansas:

For this to be done comprehensively, it will require the investigation of court records, medical records, not just in Kansas but in other states and nations. Records to determine connection of each license holder or applicant to historic "at birth" information will require hands on investigation if this is to be done accurately and comprehensively.

If you subjectively require BMV workers to challenge selected persons you have added the same problem for them that you will for every person looking at the new ID going forward.

Currently, even if the person does not "pass" having the new gender marker, it makes that more clear. You see a very male looking person wearing women's clothing and the ID says Female, you say "Oh I get it." If the person is trans, they 100% "pass and ID says Female (or male) you don't question any more than a born sex person. You will lose some BMV workers for putting them in this uncomfortable, unfair, and unnecessary situation. This entire process is costly for document investigation, creation, and implementation.

If this policy is implemented police stops, business id checking, will be slower and more confusing. Lines at ID checks will be hindered not helped. TSA and customs lines will be increased or more employees will be necessary.

I am a 73 year old and a 50 year business owner/ employer and community volunteer for many organizations currently and over my lifetime. I have coached athletes to national and state victories. I never imagined that I would move from my city, state, or even country until one year ago this month. Now I am taking actions to downsize, possibly close my business, and sell two houses. My nine employees will have to find other work. My business is annually voted the best in my city by the local media. I am Investigating where I can find more safety and more kindness."

I know friends and families who have moved already out of the country already. I have another friend who has hired an immigration attorney and is selling his condo.

I am a registered merchant, state and national taxpayer. Anti-Woke wants people who don't agree with them to shut up or leave. This time many are leaving, not a threat but actually leaving. This proposed rule is more of the same. There is zero benefit and the cost are certainly not zero!

Thank you for considering this opposition to HB 2426. I hope you can put this in the rear view mirror and focus on matters actually important to the residents of Kansas.

Jonathan Smith  
HB 2426 Opponent Written only  
Private Citizen  
1/13/2026

Thank you, Chair Humphries and members of the committee, for taking the time to hear my concerns on HB 2426. My name is Jonathan Smith, a voter in Shawnee County, and I am writing you today to encourage you to vote NO on HB 2426.

I'm so tired of the Kansas legislature repeatedly wasting our tax dollars pursuing these absurd, misguided, and damaging bills.

My brother-in-law is a trans man. He has been masculine-presenting for perhaps FIFTEEN years now. He has a beard, a short haircut, a low voice, and his build is far from feminine.

It is truly hard to describe how absolutely absurd it would be for his ID to show "female" on it, because to anyone with eyes and ears, he is a dude.

I've been to the movies with my sister and her husband, went to the bathroom with my brother-in-law before a long movie, and guess what? No one cared. Who would? To the average person, two dudes just walked into the men's room to use the bathroom and then leave. I don't understand what anti-trans folks think people do in bathrooms besides use the bathroom. Could you imagine if his bearded self entered the ladies room? Yikes.

Every time one of these bills comes up, I can't help but think that the proponents have either never met a trans person, or has, for whatever reason, decided that this marginalized population needs to be knocked down a peg. So just start calling the bills what they actually are. Stop being coy, say your principled views out loud with pride.

I know where I stand. I've met dozens of trans folks over the course of my life. Never once have I thought, "Why won't the state just force these people to change their gender on their license?" Because as a Kansan, I have REAL problems, not made up ones.

How about you guys re-analyze how you value real property state-wide? I don't know if you've heard, but property valuations have been sky rocketing. Or maybe look into our ever more costly Healthcare System.

**STOP WASTING OUR TIME.**

Thank you for your time and consideration, and please vote NO on HB 2426. Thank you.

Nicole Spacek

HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY

Private Citizen

1/13/26

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 Nicole Spacek and I am a voter in Topeka. I am a proud Kansan, and 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 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 their constituents.

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

Sincerely,

Nicole Spacek

(She/Her/Hers)

Lynette Sparkman-Barnes  
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 Lynette Sparkman-Barnes and I am a voter in Wyandotte County, Kansas City. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

While I know the Committee is made up of caring, loving individuals, I must express my opposition to HB 2426. This bill will put into law inaccurate definitions relating to gender that will be used to discriminate broadly and create unsafe environments for trans, intersex, and gender diverse individuals. Showing your ID should not be a dangerous act.

There is no evidence that trans/gender diverse individuals are dangerous. In fact, there is clear evidence that denying such individuals their right to gender expression is harmful to them; thus it is harmful to our entire community.

As the relative to a trans woman, as an ordained minister, and as a Clinical Psychologist, I have first hand witness and experience to the harm that is caused when people, including trans individuals, are denied their identity and existence. Just like you, trans and gender diverse individuals are caring and loving people, dedicated and productive members of our community, who deserve to walk in their full freedom and purpose. Limiting their freedom through this bill is discriminatory to them, and ultimately to all of us, as it sends the message that only certain individuals are valued for who they are.

I have faith in who we all are as a collective and as the body of Christ, where each one of us is created in the image of God. We are not called to define who and who is not created in God's image. We are called to love everyone because we are all created in that image.

I call on you, as a committee to Love.

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.

RE: Opposition to HB 2426 — Defining “gender” as biological sex at birth

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB 2426. I respectfully oppose this bill and urge the Committee to reject it for the following reasons:

## **1. It Overrides Personal Identity with Narrow Legal Definitions**

HB 2426 seeks to impose a single, statutory definition of “gender” limited to biological sex at birth. This fails to account for the lived experiences and identities of transgender, non-binary, and gender-diverse Kansans. Legal definitions that ignore established medical and social understanding further marginalize vulnerable groups and do not reflect the complexity of human identity.

## **2. It Creates Practical and Legal Confusion**

By mandating overturning and reissuing official documents (driver’s licenses and birth certificates) based solely on a rigid definition, the bill could:

- Force changes to personal records against the will or best interests of individuals.
- Expose the state to legal challenges based on fundamental rights to privacy, dignity, and equal protection under the law.

## **3. It Undermines Trust**

This bill sends a message to LGBTQ+ Kansans — especially youth — that their identities are subject to legislative control rather than recognized as legitimate. This could negatively affect their mental health, sense of belonging, and trust in state institutions.

## **4. It Might Conflict with Current Law and Federal Standards**

Defining “gender” in statute in a narrow way risks conflicting with existing protections under federal law and guidance that recognize gender identity for purposes of anti-discrimination enforcement and access to services.

## **Conclusion**

HB 2426 does not genuinely improve state services or legal clarity. Instead, it creates unnecessary harm, fuels discrimination, and threatens the dignity of Kansans whose lives are

already complicated by legislative overreach. I respectfully urge the Committee to oppose this bill and instead seek policies that protect all Kansans.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Annie Spence

Gabrielle Sprague  
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 Gabrielle Sprague and I am a voter in Douglas County, KS. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

This bill doesn't address the real issues Kansans have - lack of medical services in rural areas, rising grocery prices, rising cost of living. Please focus on real issues that address the problems all Kansans are facing, not less than 1% of the population.

Thank you all for hearing my testimony and thoughts on this bill. Please vote no on the passage of HB 2426. Thank you.

Carly Stevenson

HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY

Private Citizen

1/13/26

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 Carly Stevenson and I am a voter in Topeka. 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.

Working on this legislation is another waste of the tax payers' dollars. Attacking a vulnerable community to fall in line with the authoritarian regime currently in the White House is showing just how un-American you really are. Caring more about someone's gender than the current state of the economy is not your job. Kansas is still struggling financially and this legislature continues to focus on the wrong things and block legislation that can actually help Kansans. Stop focusing on things that are none of your business and focus on appropriate topics for government.

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,

Carly Stevenson

Dear Judiciary Committee,

I can have my gender on my driver's license and so should my trans daughter. Please stop this nonsense.

Samantha Stoppie

Lawrence KS

Dakotah Stubblefield  
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 Dakotah Stubblefield and I am a voter in Wyandotte County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426"

The conflation of terms such as gender and sex is harmful to our trans neighbors. Listing the identified sex at birth could cause various issues. Some people may have already gone through a change of sex or appear to be a different gender than they were at birth. The difference in identification on their license could essentially "out" them, meaning others would be aware of their transition without the autonomy to choose. Folks in the trans community are particularly vulnerable. Many people in the general population are not educated on transgender people which can make for many confusing situations. Trans men in particular, or people assigned female at birth who've transitioned to male, often incur these uncomfortable and unsafe situations. They're told they must act as their sex assigned at birth, so they use the women's bathroom, but they no longer look like a woman and upon entering the atmosphere becomes tense.

Thank you for hearing my thoughts on this bill. Please vote no on the passage of HB 2426.  
Thank you.

Linda Swim

Private citizen Truth and discernment must be the base of all legislation. I recieved notice of this bill with only a few minutes to meet testimony deadline. Please contact me amd i can provide more information I am the parent of a transgender son and g. randson and an ally of the lbgt community. I would be honored to present testimony in opposition to bill hb2426.

I would like to give information as a private citizen but i can also represent our local Marysville PFLAG

1/13/2026

Thank you i am in opposition to bill HB2426 from Marysville KS

I am the mother of a transgender daughter and transgender grandson. I want to share their stories and the truth that they deserve the rights of all

Please hear me

Lillian Taylor  
HB 2426 Opponent Written Only  
Private Citizen  
1/13/2026

Dear, Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee,  
Thank you for taking the time to allow me to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Lillian Taylor, and I am a voter in Douglas County, Lawrence. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

As an educator, I cannot stress enough the harm a bill like HB2426 will do to Kansans. This bill not only violates privacy but also puts the safety of people at risk.

#### Harmful Consequences for Transgender and Nonbinary Kansans

- Invalidation of legal identity documents – HB 2426 would annul existing birth certificates and driver's licenses for those whose gender marker differs from their assigned sex at birth, creating unnecessary bureaucratic hurdles and confusion in accessing services and employment.
- Increased discrimination and safety risks – Forcibly altering or invalidating IDs can lead to public embarrassment, outing, or even harassment for transgender and nonbinary individuals, exacerbating existing vulnerabilities in public spaces, school settings, and workplaces.
- Negative impact on mental health and well-being – Requiring individuals to adopt records that feel inaccurate or false can contribute to gender dysphoria, anxiety, and psychological distress—undermining the state's broader efforts to support Kansans' mental health.

#### Administrative Burden and Fiscal Costs

- HB 2426 would compel both the Division of Vehicles and the Office of Vital Statistics to identify all documents issued since birth and proactively revoke or replace those that “do not align” with birth-assigned sex. This would impose significant processing demands, staffing needs, and costs for printing and mailing new documents alone.
- The legislation does not allocate funds for these changes, likely forcing state agencies into difficult budgetary decisions that could delay services not directly related to gender identity.

#### Legal Overreach and Erosion of Rights

- By mandating that gender must be defined by biological sex at birth “for purposes of statutory construction,” HB 2426 could undermine protections provided under other laws—such as anti-discrimination measures, healthcare access, and educational accommodations—effectively invalidating legal gender recognition without judicial review.
- Eliminating definitions of gender from acts like Kansas's “Help Not Harm” initiative sends a broader message: that gender diversity is not legally recognized or valued by the state.

#### Broader Implications for Kansans

- Educators in K–12 and higher education may face conflicts in record-keeping, accessing student supports, or complying with anti-discrimination obligations.
- Healthcare providers could struggle to bill insurance or verify patient identity accurately.
- Employers and businesses might see increased confusion in verifying identities, exacerbating inequities or causing service barriers.

For Kansans who are transgender, nonbinary, or wear gender markers that affirm their lived identity, HB 2426 is more than a policy change—it is an existential threat to their legal standing, dignity, and safety.

I urge you to oppose HB 2426. Instead, consider policies that uphold individual autonomy, streamline administrative processes, and reflect Kansans' diverse lived experiences. Preserving the integrity of identity documents protects individuals and strengthens public trust in our institutions.

Thank you for your attention to this issue and for your continued service to all Kansans.

Cory Tibbitts  
HB 2426 Opponent WRITTEN ONLY  
Private citizen  
1/13/2026

Hello committee members, thank you for the time to share my thoughts on HB 2426. My name is Cory Tibbitts, a coter in Park City. I am writing in today strongly encouraging the committee vote NO on HB 2426.

Should this bill go through, I am greatly concerned for the well-being of transgender, as well as other non- cisgendered people. These are folks that have went to great, great lengths and struggles, medically and socially, to present as they feel they should. If roles are flipped, for wake or discussion, and any of you suddenly had your gender markers all changed, as well as referred to by a different gender, you would likely be annoyed, confused, or downright pissed off! I would. Transition isn't "just a man putting on a dress", it involves years of talking with therapists, doctors, taking hormones and socially changing, often times socially ostracizing themselves, all to make their body match what their head says they are. Now to have their ID changed through hastily ramrodded house bills, puts them at much higher risk of injury, as well as now feeling demonized by their state for simply trying to exist.

Thank you for hearing my position, I, as a cisgendered person and voting member of the county, strongly hope and encourage you all to vote no on HB2426.



PO Box 654  
Lawrence, KS 66044

[KansasInterfaithAction.org](http://KansasInterfaithAction.org)  
[KIFA@kansasinterfaithaction.org](mailto:KIFA@kansasinterfaithaction.org)

Rabbi Moti Rieber, Executive Director  
Rev. Dr. Annie Ricker, Board Chair

**Written-only Testimony by Rev. Mandy Todd in Opposition to HB 2426, Defining the term "gender"**

House Judiciary Committee, Rep. Susan Humphries, Chair - January 13, 2026

Mme. Chair, Members of the Committee -

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition to HB 2426.

I offer this testimony as a local Christian pastor, rooted in a faith that affirms that every person is created with inherent dignity and worth—indeed, created in the image of God. Scripture calls us to care for the most vulnerable among us and to build communities where people can live without fear. HB 2426 fails these moral obligations.

This bill would codify inaccurate and harmful definitions of sex and gender into Kansas law, definitions that will be used to exclude and discriminate against transgender, intersex, and gender-diverse people. Laws should be instruments of justice and protection. Instead, this bill creates conditions that make daily life more dangerous for some of our neighbors.

Legal documents are required to work, attend school, open a bank account, access services, and participate fully in civic life. Policies that increase the risk of confrontation or punishment when someone's identity does not align with rigid legal definitions force transgender Kansans to choose between their safety and their participation in society. No one should be pushed out of public life in order to stay alive.

Kansas has no comprehensive protections against discrimination for transgender people. HB 2426 would deepen that harm. This bill would deny transgender Kansans access to restrooms, domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, and other spaces meant to provide safety and care. Denying people access to refuge in moments of vulnerability is profoundly immoral and undeniably unbiblical.

This bill is based on falsehoods. It feeds into harmful stereotypes that portray transgender women as threats, despite the absence of evidence. These narratives are not only untrue; they are dangerous. Transgender people are far more likely to be victims of violence than perpetrators, experiencing violent crime at rates more than four times higher than the general population. When lawmakers enshrine fear and misinformation into law, it contributes to stigma and emboldens harm.

Our faith calls us to be guided by truth, compassion, and justice—not fear. HB 2426 does not protect anyone, nor does it uphold human dignity. It increases danger, isolates vulnerable people, and moves us further from the values of care and community we are called to embody.

I urge the committee to reject HB 2426 and instead pursue policies that affirm the dignity, safety, and humanity of all Kansans.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

The Rev. Dr. Mandy Todd, Lindsborg

Atalie Tompkins  
HB 2426 Opponent Written only  
Private citizen  
1/13/2026

Members of the Committee,  
Thank you for giving me time to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you. My name is Atalie Tompkins and I am a voter in Shawnee County. I am writing to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

I oppose this bill, because it is taking away the rights of a minority of people that are being targeted for their differences. The immense pressure on our transgender community to be something they are not is wrong. This is not a bill for healthy and happy Kansans.

I encourage you all to vote no on the passage of HB 2426.

Thank you.

Bec Trickey  
Regarding the House Committee on Judiciary  
January 12, 2026

To Representative Susan Humphries and members of the House Committee on Judiciary:

My name is Bec Trickey, and I am a lifelong Kansas resident.

I oppose HB 2426, as it contradicts the nuanced realities of gender, directly limits the rights of Kansans, and wastes taxpayers' money on overly politicized non-issues that do not benefit Kansans at large.

In a statewide survey published in March 2024, Kansans communicated their concerns about affordable access to health care, housing, child care, and healthy food. **A significant number of survey participants also communicated that they believed their elected officials were not in touch with the financial burdens Kansas families face.**

Many Kansans like me are looking to our local and state governments for support for ourselves, our friends, and our families. It is continuously disappointing to see our state legislature drafting bills that actively limit Kansans' freedoms, when our representatives could be doing so much more to address the issues Kansans actually care about.

If the most pressing needs of your constituents are actually your priority, I urge you to vote against HB 2426.

Thank you all for taking the time to read my testimony.

Bec Trickey  
Lawrence, KS

Mackenzi Truelove  
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY  
PRIVATE CITIZEN  
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you. My name is Mackenzi Truelove and I am a voter in Sedgwick County. I am writing to encourage this committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

Please vote NO on this bill HB 2426. I have worked in medicine for 10 years, have a bachelors of science in biomedical science and a master of health administration and this is detrimental to practices across the state - the ones that are already struggling due to Medicaid shortages. The administrative costs are skyrocketing and we shouldn't be forcing practices to have to re-document people, medically, or come up with a way to comply with these updates.

Please vote NO on this bill HB 2426. Wasting tax payer dollars to complete the task of switching documentation is not going to go over well. Especially at a time when prices have already increased everywhere across the state, and people are struggling everywhere to make ends meet.

Please vote NO on this bill HB 2426. This bill boldly defies medical science and innate human fact to place phenotypical (appearance) of biological sex organs upon gender as a social construct. The self expression aspect of this alone is detrimental. My genitals should not determine a letter on my ID, I shouldn't have to share my genital information with ANYONE. My genitals should not determine how I can present myself - the pants vs. skirts argument.

Please vote NO on this bill HB 2426. This bill does not account for the an individual's deep knowing of self and forces people into hiding under threat of violence that's caused by the confusion of gender from individuals who don't need to be privy to that information. This comes at a time when state based violence is at an all time high. Should this bill pass you will see an increase in violence against trans folks from people who feel empowered by it's passing to police gender as vigilantes. WE DO NOT NEED MORE VIOLENCE - IT IS BEST AVOIDED AT THIS TIME.

Please vote NO on this bill HB 2426. Should this bill pass, you will also see an increase in violence against women who aren't dainty enough, small enough, and weak enough. And I know that women in Kansas, regardless of political affiliation would not appreciate violence against them based on the way they look, based on looking "too manly" which is a completely subjective viewpoint. This bill can't hide under the guise of protecting women when it will quite literally hurt women. And I am of the mindset that women in Kansas (again, regardless of political affiliation) would like to be recognized as robust and strong, and not fragile and weak - as the biological sex and traditional 2 gender construct would have women identified.

Thanks, again, for your consideration of my thoughts on this bill, and I encourage you to vote NO on the passage of HB2426.

Tessa Uhlmann  
HB 2426 Opponent WRITTEN ONLY  
Private Citizen  
1/12/2026

Thank you for the opportunity to share my opinion on HB 2426. My name is Tessa Uhlmann, and I am a voter in Lawrence. I am writing to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

The safety of transgender people has been under repeated attack in the last few years. This bill is another in a long line of state and federal bills that enforce unscientific ideas of gender and sex for the sole purpose of endangering an already threatened minority. Changing gender markers is not a threat to public security, health, or safety. It is, however, integral to the safety of transgender people.

According to GLAAD's Anti LGBT Extremism Reporting Tracker, between May first of 2024 and May first of 2025, there were 932 anti-LGBT hate crimes reported. Over half of these were against transgender and gender non-conforming people. That averages out to over one a day. Every time transgender people are required to show ID with a gender marker that doesn't match their identity or presentation, they are at risk of violence.

In addition, though it pales in comparison to the violence transgender people face due to this bill, I am concerned for the increased workload the reversal of current gender marker changes would place on government employees. As a former government employee myself, I know that they are often overburdened, and this bill would put even more on their desks for no benefit. I see no reason to delay other important government business for the sole reason of endangering the lives of transgender people.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my opinions on this bill, I encourage you all to vote no on the passage of HB 2426. Thank you.

Lisa Veglahn  
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY  
PRIVATE CITIZEN  
1/13/2026

Thank you to Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee for allowing me to express my thoughts on HB 2426 with you. My name is Lisa Veglahn and I am a voter in Prairie Village/ Johnson County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

Data shows that states that explicitly (and incorrectly) define gender in state law have higher incidences of discrimination and violence towards their own residents. There are so many critical issues facing Kansans right now, it does not make sense that one of the first legislative actions is to consider legislation that discriminates against voters and KS residents.

Thank you for considering my opinion and for considering a vote of NO on the passage of HB2426. Thank you

Annika Velen  
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY  
Private Citizen  
1/13/26

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 Annika and I am a voter in Topeka. 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 struggling to make ends meet. It is a waste of citizens' and our elected officials' time and resources entertaining this.

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 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,  
Annika

BRIANNA W.  
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY  
PRIVATE CITIZEN  
1/12/2026

Members of the Committee, thank you very much for reading and considering my concerns regarding HB 2426. My name is Brianna and I am a voter in Douglas County, KS. I am writing to ask that the committee vote NO on HB 2426.

I am writing a different type of testimony today. You will hear from many of my friends and loved ones about how much harm this bill will do to trans and intersex people. You will hear about the challenges of getting housing and getting jobs because of identification that does not match who they are. You will hear about the increased risk of harassment, assault, and death. You will hear from trans and intersex people who are leaders in the community, who are students, advocates, teachers, but also brothers, sisters, sons and daughters. People who have never done harm but only tried to live.

And then you will hear from the people who hate them, deeply, simply for daring to exist. For imagined depravities that speak more to those imagining them than to the people they are accusing. They will be loud and passionate and cruel in their dehumanization of trans and intersex people. They will be scornful and condescending and they will ignore the living, breathing, kind community of people in front of them in favor of hate. And a lot of those people speaking are not Kansans. They are hate-speakers imported from uglier places here to spread that hate to Kansas too.

I am a lifelong Kansan. I was born here. I have voted here in every election since I became eligible to vote. I have gone to church and city council meetings, farmers markets and concerts in the city parks. My children go to school here. My husband is a firefighter and a paramedic here. I love our state. I love the prairie and the hills of the west and the rivers and cities of the east. I love that as a child, I remember community and neighborly friendliness. Block parties and bringing folks soup and flowers. I remember kindness and deliberate care.

But for the past twenty or so years, I have watched this state begin to change. I have watched as committees such as this one have voted, again and again, not to improve our state or help its people, but propose and pass bills that do harm. Bills that limit rights, remove protections, exclude people, hurt people, and spread the seeds of hate. And not only that, but bills that create complex, expensive consequences for the people of Kansas. Bills that require enforcement, and bureaucratic processes. That slow down systems that were intended to help until they no longer function and people give up, resigned to poverty, or homelessness, debt, lack of education or job prospects. These bills are, to be blunt, strangling the potential and the people of our state.

If you vote to advance this bill, you will be doing a disservice to more than just the small group of trans and intersex people who live here. Because Kansans help each other. We're known for

it. We help folks stuck on the side of the rode and give each other rides and help carry groceries and keep an eye on all the children of the park, not just our own. But as you advance these bills that chip away at people's rights, and make them targets for hate and harm, you also advance an agenda of hate that chips away at the practical, pragmatic, small government mentality that has always defined Kansas within the United States. We do not need more regulations targeting people with government overreach, that lead to unnecessary spending and changes in bureaucracy for the sake of an agenda that is not ours.

We are Kansans. We do not want this. We want our government to leave people alone to live their lives. If you're going to do something, we want you to fund our schools, our hospitals, bring jobs to our towns, and help keep people healthy, employed, and housed, so we can do the work of making our own lives better.

I hope you will consider more than just this moment in time, and the agendas you advance for Kansas, before you vote on this bill. And when you vote, I hope you vote no on HB 2426. Thank you very much for your time.

Benjamin Walker  
HB 2426 OPPONENT WRITTEN ONLY  
PRIVATE CITIZEN  
1/13/2026

My name is Benjamin Walker and I live in Overland Park. I appreciate the opportunity to submit written testimony on HB 2426, which would cruelly discriminate against vulnerable Kansans and in doing so, be contrary to the national image of Kansas as a free state. I urge the committee to vote no on HB 2426.

This bill is unfair, cruel, and represents an overreach of government into the private lives of the people of Kansas. Gender identity is a personal matter.

I appreciate your consideration of these comments and hope that you will vote no on HB 2426, and then move on to the issues where we need action from our legislature, like jobs and economic development, affordable health care, food, and housing. Thank you for your public service.

Erika Walker  
HB 2426 Opponent Written Only  
Erika Walker Therapy, LLC; Therapist/Clinical Social Worker  
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 Erika Walker and I am a voter in Valley Center, KS. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426

I submit this written testimony in opposition to HB 2426. I am a LCSW (Licensed Specialist Clinical Social Worker) who works with transgender, intersex, and gender-diverse Kansans. In my clinical practice, I routinely see the mental-health impact of discrimination, stigma, and social exclusion on these populations. The distress my clients experience is not caused by their gender identity or biological variation—it is caused by how they are treated because of it.

A large body of psychological and public-health research demonstrates that transgender and gender-diverse people experience higher rates of depression, anxiety, and suicidality due to minority stress: chronic exposure to stigma, rejection, harassment, and discriminatory policies (Meyer, 2003; Testa et al., 2015). These harms are not hypothetical. When laws and policies mark a group as unworthy of equal participation in society, measurable mental-health damage follows.

Structural stigma—defined as laws and institutional practices that deny equal rights to LGBTQ+ people—has been directly linked to higher rates of psychiatric disorders and even premature mortality (Hatzenbuehler et al., 2009; Hatzenbuehler et al., 2014). Policies that restrict or invalidate the identities of transgender and gender-diverse people increase psychological distress, substance use, and suicide risk.

HB 2426 would enshrine inaccurate and rigid definitions of sex and gender into Kansas law. These definitions fail to account for the medical reality of intersex people and the psychological and biological diversity of gender. Such laws give legal justification for discrimination in employment, housing, education, healthcare, and public accommodations. Kansas already lacks comprehensive nondiscrimination protections for LGBTQ+ people; this bill would further increase vulnerability.

One of the most dangerous consequences of bills like HB 2426 is their impact on access to public spaces and essential services. Research shows that restricting access to bathrooms and facilities based on sex assigned at birth significantly increases harassment, fear, avoidance of public life, and suicide attempts among transgender people (Herman, 2013; Seelman, 2016). When people are forced to choose between personal safety and meeting basic needs, public health suffers.

Although HB 2426 is framed as protecting women, evidence shows that these policies do not improve safety. Instead, they increase risk for transgender, intersex, and gender-diverse

people—many of whom are survivors of sexual or domestic violence—by denying them access to shelters, crisis centers, and safe facilities (Seelman, 2016). These individuals already face elevated rates of victimization; policies that isolate them further compound harm (Testa et al., 2015).

Intersex Kansans are also directly harmed by rigid legal sex definitions. Sociological and medical research shows that policies enforcing binary sex categories erase intersex people and expose them to discrimination, medical mistreatment, and legal insecurity (Davis et al., 2015). HB 2426 would institutionalize this erasure.

Public policy should be grounded in evidence and aimed at reducing harm. The peer-reviewed research is clear: discriminatory laws increase mental-health distress, suicidality, and violence. HB 2426 would make Kansas less safe, less healthy, and less just for many of its residents.

Once again, I thank you for hearing my witness (and to a bigger extent the clients I have and still see) and thoughts on this bill, and for the reasons stated, I urge you to reject HB 2426.  
Thank you.

Kelly Wall  
HB 2426 Opponent Written only  
Private Citizen  
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, Thank you for accepting this written testimony in opposition to HB 2426. My name is Kelly Wall and I am a voter in Lawrence, Douglas County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

As a mother of a transgender daughter, I am opposed to government overreach and interference into my adult child's ability to live freely within their true gender and identity. If this bill were passed and allowed to be retroactive, many adults, including my transgender daughter, would be forced to have their identifying documents changed and no longer in alignment with their expressed gender. This would expose them to the possibilities of harassment, or worse, as well as the psychological and emotional trauma of having to explain or defend their status. I believe this bill would do harm and would not be a reflection of our belief that we live in the land of the free. Please keep government interference out of private lives and vote NO on HB 2426.

Thank you for listening to my personal story and thoughts on this bill. I encourage you all to vote NO on the passage of HB 2426 and to reflect on, "what if this affected my child?". Thank you.

Joseph Welch  
HB 2426 Opponent Written Only  
Private Citizen  
1/12/2026

Chair Humphries and members, thank you for the opportunity to speak on this matter of House Bill 2426 today. My name is Joseph Welch and I am a voter from Kansas City, KS. I am writing to you to plead that you vote no on House Bill 2426.

I would like to share with you a few facts about my life in the United States. I was born and raised in Humboldt, Kansas and I didn't even know what transgender was for the first 19 years of my life. I met the first transgender person in my life that I knew about when I was about 20 years old when I lived in Kansas City, Missouri working retail. They were also born and raised in Kansas. Today, after living in Missouri and Chicago, Illinois, I know about 5 transgender people who have lived in Kansas and have since moved away to other states specifically so that they feel safe or so that they could have their driver's license reflect the gender they are perceived as today. This bill is exactly why these 5 people don't feel safe in our state. They didn't feel safe in my neighborhood, not because of any specifics of my neighborhood, but because my neighborhood was on the Kansas side of the Kansas City metro area. This bill even being in committee reinforces their fear of this state. This bill needs to end now. There are several trans Kansans that are already starting fundraisers so that they can move to Kansas City, Missouri or major cities outside of the Midwest precisely because of the fear that if this bill or others like this will pass, and they will have to go through processes that will undo the progress that Kansas has been making in recent years to ensure that our young people feel safe in Kansas. If Kansas wants young people to move here instead of leave our great state, we must act like a welcoming state, not like a discriminatory state. Because that is exactly what this bill does, discriminate, not accommodate.

Thank you so much for hearing my testimony today. This is a matter that my community finds paramount, and I hope you understand the gravity of this vote. Please vote no on House Bill 2426 for the future of Kansas. Thank you.

QUINN WHITE  
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 Quinn White and I am a voter in Johnson County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

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.

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.

Jacob Whitney  
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 Jacob Whitney a voter in Lawrence. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

When I moved to Kansas I had friends who were worried about my safety. They had heard rumors about the ways people in "the middle of nowhere" treat trans people. But I know that the people of Kansas are truly some of the kindest people in the world. I knew, moving here, that I would find a home I would not want to leave, that the people of Kansas are good honest people who love their neighbor and put in a hard day's work. I don't see how this bill fits into our beautiful state's character. I can not see blatant discrimination against any group of people as something fitting of a state with a history like ours. That's what HB 2426 is, it is an allowance for discrimination. Kansas was on the right side of history when it entered the union. In the late 70s the citizens of Wicthita stood on the right side of history to protect gay men and women from discrimination. In August of 2022 Kansans again stood on the right side of history protecting the individual liberty of women when they voted to protect access to abortion. So I ask you, committee members to stand along side Kansans past and present. Stand against discrimination and stand to protect individual liberty with a vote against HB 2426.

Thank you, truly to each of the committee members for hearing my thoughts on this bill. I encourage you again please vote NO to the passage of HN 2426. Thank you.

Elizabeth Wickstrom  
HB 2426 OPPONENT Written only  
Private Citizen  
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to share my concerns regarding HB 2426 with you. My name is Dr Elizabeth Wickstrom and I am a registered voter in Prairie Village. I write today to urge you to vote NO on HB 2426.

I have witnessed firsthand in my patients, neighbors and my own family how destructive discrimination against gender diverse Kansans has become. As your constituent, I am asking you to protect these children and adults from harm and allow them to live as their true selves, without fear of violence and economic discrimination. Being born Intersex should not be a crime. Showing your driver's license should not be an open invitation to abuse. Yet that is precisely the environment such a law would produce.

Again, I appreciate you allowing me to express my concerns about HB 2426, and encourage all of you to vote NO on its passage.

Devon Wilson  
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 Devon Wilson and I am a voter in Wichita. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426

This bill would not only misrepresent people who are trans, intersex, and gender diverse individuals, but infact lead to open discrimination. Making it so these people would have to show their ID for basic everyday things such as work will most definitely have an impact on how they are treated. This bill doesn't protect women as it tries to claim. Boiling down what it means to be a woman to physical means such as having a womb will only objectify cis women.

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.

Rev. Joseph Wiseman  
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. My name is Rev. Joseph Wiseman and I am a voter in Sedgwick County/Wichita. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

HB 2426 disregards and even defies established science that recognizes and affirms God's creative diversity of gender. It fosters a society directly opposed to the Kingdom of God that Jesus proclaims. My transgender, intersex, and gender fluid loved ones are rightly fearful and wounded. To confine a beloved child of God to an identity assigned exclusively by human society's imperfect best guess at birth is cruel. It is a needless tragedy that inflicts suffering, anguish, and, too often, death.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my experience and opinion. I encourage to all to vote no on the passage of HB 2426. Thank you. Grace and peace.

Rev. Melissa Woeppel  
HB 2426 Opponent Written only  
Private Citizen  
1/13/2026

Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee, I am grateful for the opportunity to share my thoughts on HB 2426 with you today. My name is Melissa Woeppel and I am a voter in McPherson County. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426.

As an ordained pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, I believe in the dignity and worth of all people. My call to God and my community requires me to love and serve people as they are and as they understand themselves. Transgender Kansans deserve the right to have state IDs that accurately reflect who they are. When I got married, I got to choose what my name would be on legal documentation. This was a decision I made as a reflection of myself and how I wanted to present myself to the world. All Kansas deserve the same. While this bill claims to protect women, it instead seriously endangers the lives of folks who are already vulnerable. Just like every other Kansan, transgender Kansans deserve to be able to use their IDs without discrimination or fear.

For all of these reasons, I urge you to vote no on the passage of HB 2426. Thank you for your time.

CASSANDRA WOOLWORTH  
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 Cassandra Woolworth and I am a voter in Johnson County, Kansas in Olathe. I am writing today to encourage the committee to vote NO on HB 2426

Interesting that HB 2426 is the first bill you take up in the 2026 legislative session. A bill TO discriminate. TO put a bullseyes on differences. TO make sure discrimination lasts thruout their lives by permanently blotting out their choices about their own bodies, families, lifestyles. 1st one - discrimination from the 2026 GOP legislature - the GOP LOST this challenge last year but keep bringing the trash forward as you refuse to let Kansans have their say. You want to get your way. Why are all ways YOUR WAYS?? Do you not represent your constituents?

HB 2426 will put into law INNACURATE definitions relating to gender that will be used to discriminate broadly and create unsafe environments for trans, intersex, and gender diverse individuals. 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 important parts of life to protect their safety.

There is no law that protects transgender Kansans from discrimination and this bill increases that risk. This bill actively discriminates against a class that makes up only about .001 percent of the population. Just because they are small doesn't mean they don't deserve dignity. You are taking dignity and making sure to discriminate against a small, defenseless class. Shame on you.

Thank you all for listening. I encourage you all to vote no of the passage of HB 2426. Thank you.

Lisa Wright  
HB 2426 Opponent Written only  
Private citizen  
1/13/2026

Thank you Chair and Committee for giving me an opportunity to share my thoughts on HB 2426. I live in Johnson county, Kansas and I have 2 children who will be affected by this bill.

There are so many other issues that you all should be worried about. Stop hating on marginalized Kansans who have always been here. Listen to the people in Kansas with their own Kansas stories and protect your constituents!

Please vote NO on HB 2426. Thank you.