

MSU Consortium for SGM Health Opposes Michigan House Bill 6454

The [Michigan State University Consortium for Sexual and Gender Minority Health](#)* is opposed to the cruel, transphobic, and anti-science [legislation proposed](#) on National Coming Out Day (October 11, 2022) by five Michigan House Republicans. Proposed House Bill 6454 would classify evidence-based medical practices that provide gender-affirming care to transgender and nonbinary youth in Michigan as child abuse. It would also classify Michigan parents, guardians, and medical and health professionals who support or provide such care for youth as child abusers, with penalties that include lifetime imprisonment, and force any youth who have medically transitioned to return to their sex assigned at birth.

Current medical best practices, as evidenced by statements and guidelines from the [American Academy of Family Physicians](#), [American Academy of Pediatrics](#), [American Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry](#), [American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists](#), [American College of Physicians](#), [American Counseling Association](#), [American Medical Association](#), [American Osteopathic Association](#), [American Psychiatric Association](#), [American Psychological Association](#), [American Public Health Association](#), [Children's Hospital Association](#), [Endocrine Society](#), [National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners](#), [National Association of Social Workers](#), [Pediatric Endocrine Society](#), and [World Professional Association for Transgender Health](#), support providing gender-affirming care for transgender and nonbinary youth and vehemently oppose attempts of politicians to interfere with the provision of this medically necessary care.

Gender-affirming medical care for transgender and nonbinary youth is associated with reductions in [suicide](#), [depression](#), and [anxiety](#), and [improved mental health](#). Politicians falsely purport that many or most individuals who receive gender-affirming medical care later have regrets. However, [research clearly demonstrates](#) that regret associated with medically-facilitated gender-affirming care is extremely rare. Politicians also incorrectly describe gender-affirming medical care for youth as having irreversible effects. On the contrary, puberty blockers, a critical component of gender-affirming medical care for children and teens, and one form of treatment expressly banned by proposed HB 6454, are indeed [reversible](#). The attempt of politicians, without any medical training or expertise, to characterize support for (and provision of) medically necessary care as child abuse is dangerous, extremist, a violation of parental rights, [harmful to transgender and nonbinary youth](#), and anti-science as it ignores decades of empirical research evidence and the expertise of medical and health professionals and associations. The only individuals who are qualified to make medically-informed choices about health care for transgender and nonbinary youth are: those youth, their parents and guardians, and their medical and health care providers. We stand against this hostile, misguided, and transphobic governmental overreach.

We stand with [Equality Michigan](#) in proclaiming:

NO on HB 6454

NO hearing. NO vote.

Let your Michigan House Representative know that you oppose this bill and urge them NOT to support it by clicking here: <https://act.myngp.com/Forms/-4009166136480363008>

*The MSU Consortium for Sexual and Gender Minority Health is dedicated to supporting the overall wellbeing of sexual and gender minorities (SGM) across the lifespan. Grounded in the social sciences, we promote interdisciplinary SGM health research and collaborations that are vital to SGM communities. We provide mentorship and training to faculty and students across and beyond MSU and develop evidence-based strategies for promoting systemic change, social justice, and SGM wellness locally, nationally, and internationally.