

TO: House Preventative Health Policy Division
FROM: Child Protection League Action
 March 2, 2022

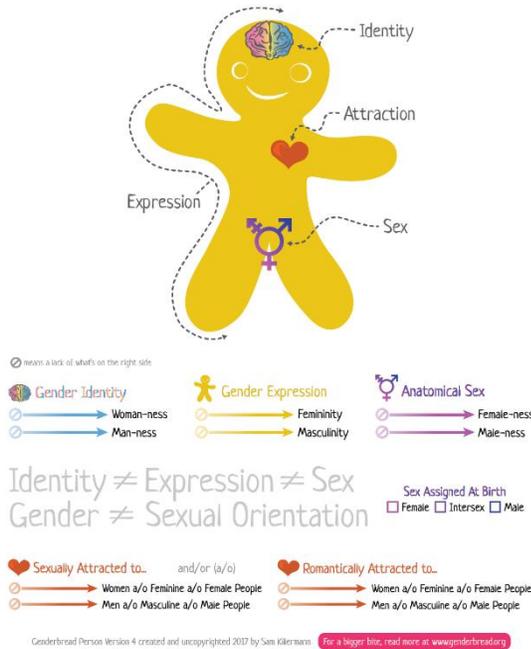
Statement in opposition to HF2156, *Prohibiting Gender Therapy for Minors*

Child Protection League Action strongly opposes HF2156.

This legislation is an attack on the fundamental civil liberties of children, families, and the free exercise of religious faith.

Within the public schools today, unknown to many parents, children are being subjected to ideas that cause them to seriously question their very identity as a boy or a girl. Have you seen the pictures of the Genderbread Person now frequently found in early age classrooms? Impressionable, vulnerable, and often troubled minds are being inundated with visuals like this one. Numerous children’s books tell them stories of biological boys who discover they are not boys at all, because they think they are girls, and biological girls who discover they are boys. These books are intentionally aimed at leading children to believe they should question and *discover* their true gender.

The Genderbread Person v4 by its pronounced METROsexual



Advocates of this unthinkable attack on our children call it a ‘culture shift’ that liberates us from the confines of two distinct genders. Some of you here likely subscribe to that view.

We are reaping the harvest of this assault with a wave of young people who don’t know who they are. At the first sign of questioning after a book like *The Princess Boy* is read to them, their questions are immediately affirmed. That path frequently leads to life altering, heavy-duty hormone treatments and even disfiguring surgeries.

This legislation takes that assault to the next level. It would seal off access to any professional help to talk through the child’s confusion *unless that counselling affirms the child's gender identity questioning*. It would criminalize counseling to minors whose families are seeking help for their children who are struggling with issues of gender confusion and same sex attraction.

This bill is an aggressive authoritarian attack on freedom of speech that is protected in the first amendment to the U.S. Constitution; it is a massive intrusion into families and parental rights; and it criminalizes the free exercise of religion, also a fundamental right protected by the first amendment. For those who believe gender is fluid, that we are not born as male or female, that biology does not determine gender, consider carefully that you are not authorized to adopt laws that infringe on the fundamental rights of others.

Many testimonies are available about how effective counseling has assisted individuals to overcome unwanted sexual tendencies and grounding them in their God-given identities. All of you know that. But that reality is apparently so threatening to gender activists that they are willing to use the powerful force of the law to impose their personal vision on every family and child in our state. They have no right to do that. Legislators have no right to do that.

HF2156 is dangerous territory. It has no place in a free country. It is a power grab to enforce on our state a view of human beings that is directly at odds with both the founding principles of our nation and the faith of many. We urge you to reject this bill.

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