

02/10/2025

Re: Testimony Against HB25-1145 Trafficking Minor for Abortion or Transgender Care

To whom it may concern:

My name is Ashley Charbonneau, and I am a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Licensed Addiction Counselor, and Sex Offender Management Board treatment provider and evaluator in Colorado. I am also a professor for a local university, and I am a trainer for various organizations. I am an ally to those who identify as LGBTQ+ and those who need an abortion for any reason. I am writing today in *vehement opposition* to BH 25-1145 for several reasons.

First, I obtained my Bachelor of Arts in Religion from the University of Rochester, where I completed an Honors Dissertation about Mormonism (Church of Latter Day Saints, or LDS) in Popular Culture. Based on my academic background and expertise, it is concerning that many of the bills targeting the LGBTQ+ population and abortion are rooted in religion. We are fortunate enough to have separation between Church and State in this country (at least in theory), and therefore it is inappropriate to use religion as a defense. Additionally, the stress of many religiously authoritative texts is that God and Jesus love all their children, meaning each and every person who identifies as LGBTQ+ and/or needs an abortion is loved by their higher power.

Second, I specialize in working with individuals who have committed sexually-based offenses. The use of the word “trafficking” in this bill is inaccurate. Trafficking means the illegal exchange of a child (or adult) for sex or work (or some other commodity), and there is both implicit and explicit coercion or force. There is no consent with trafficking. For minors who need abortion or transgender care, these minors (and often their parents) are *consenting to legal activities*. It is dangerous and inaccurate to use “trafficking” as a way to “market” necessary healthcare services. Colorado has enshrined abortion and access to birth control; the Reproductive Health Equity Act ensures each individual’s right to use or refuse contraception. This proposed HB is in direct contradiction to what voters have already expressed they want, need, and support.

Third, and most importantly, I am human. I support and affirm all genders and sexual orientations, and in both my personal and professional life, I have seen that healthcare, including abortion and transgender care, saves lives and leads to a safer, just society.

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
Ashley

**House Judiciary**

**02/11/2025 01:30 PM**

**HB25-1145 Trafficking Minor for Abortion or Transgender Care**

**Typed Text of Testimony Submitted**

<b>Name, Position, Representing</b>	<b>Typed Text of Testimony</b>
Jeany Rush For themselves	<p>TO: COMMITTEE ON HOUSE JUDICIARY</p> <p>RE: HB2-1145 TRAFFICKING MINOR FOR ABORTION OR TRANSGENDER CARE</p> <p>SPONSOR: REPRESENTATIVE SCOTT BOTTOMS 2-11-25</p> <p>FROM: JEANY RUSH, COLORADO SPRINGS CONSTITUENT –</p> <p>VOTE: YES YES YES PROTECT THE CHILDREN NOW!</p> <p>Concerning prohibiting the human trafficking of an out-of-state minor into Colorado for the purpose of assisting the minor in obtaining certain reproductive health-care services. Subjects: CRIMES, CORRECTIONS, ENFORCEMENT, HEALTH CARE &amp; HEALTH INSURANCE Real Subjects: Kidnapping, Trafficking, Mutilation of minor children</p> <p>NO CHILD CAN GIVE INFORMED CONSENT LEAVE THOSE KIDS ALONE</p> <p>Many crucial changes have occurred regarding current protocols, which will begin to reshape the policy and cultural landscape surrounding transgender ideology in the coming years.</p> <p>On January 28, President Trump signed two significant Executive Orders, declaring his intent to return our country to true and ethical standards regarding sex.</p> <p>Under the first order, Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government, he affirms two (and only two) distinct biological sexes: male and female.</p> <p>Under the second order that will protect children with gender dysphoria while Protecting Children from Chemical and Surgical Mutilation, hospitals across the country will be required to suspend any gender interventions on individuals under the age of 19. This Order states that it will neither fund, sponsor, promote, assist, nor support medical interventions such as puberty blockers or surgeries meant to “so – called transition” a child to the opposite sex</p>

	<p>By: Doctors Protecting Children Coalition, American College of Pediatricians</p> <p>TRAFFICKING OF CHILDREN IS PREVELANT ALL AROUND US!</p> <p>HOW DO YOU OR WILL YOU, AS A LEGISLATOR EVEN KNOW THAT CHILD/MINOR COMING TO COLORADO FOR AN ABORTION OR GENDER MUTILATION THERAPY IS HERE ON FREE WILL?</p> <p>"Each year over 400,000 children are reported missing in the USA, which is over 1,100 per day!" Nearly 50 Million Human Beings globally are victims of modern-day slavery, whether sex trafficking, labor, forced marriage, etc. Estimate is at least 1/3 of them are children, and as young as newborn! (2021 International Labor Organization)</p> <p>Approximately 300,000 sex-trafficked children are in the US.</p> <p>Global profits are approximately \$150 Billion, and \$99 Billion is from sex trafficking. \$32 Billion of that is in the US.</p> <p>Sadly, it would appear we are the world's largest sex buyer!</p> <p>Let that sink into your mind. This means, in every community of America alone, there are evil forces working to find and steal children, and adults for the trafficking industry. The suspected criminals come from all walks of life, from cartels, from government organizations hiding in the wings, from other criminal forces, from churches, from Satan worship groups, from mobsters wanting to make huge bucks! They do not value life! Only the Dollar\$\$\$\$. One child any age, can be abused as many as 20 plus times daily. When they have worn them out, they simply sell their organs!</p> <p>This Business is as lucrative as the drug trade, if not more! It also includes satanic ritualistic activities, even in our city, in our state! We have a BIG Corridor for these activities right here in Colorado!</p> <p>A coalition within the American College of Pediatricians (ACP) released Thursday its "Doctors Protecting Children Declaration." The document encourages American medical associations like the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Pediatric Endocrine Society and others – organizations that are currently promoting harmful gender-manipulation procedures for minors; procedures like puberty blockers, surgical options and more – to just say no.</p> <p>One was the leaked documents from the files of the World Professional Association of Transgender Health that showed doubts, disagreement and concerns by doctors performing gender surgeries. The docs showed the docs struggling to define standards of care.</p> <p>One debated topic was whether minors can truly give approval for gender procedures which will have lifelong effects. "What has been</p>
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	<p>currently happening is, frankly, not what we need to be doing, ethically," one of the medical professionals told his colleagues.</p> <p>Simons stated, in reference to the leaked documents: "They exposed the very doctors who are doing these things, their doubts, their concerns. So that was quite alarming."</p> <p>More recently, Dr. Hillary Cass, of England's National Health Service, released the final report of her review gender care for minors just as NHS is expanding its gender services for children and youth nationwide. NHS has said it will consider the report as it considers future policy.</p> <p>Cass said the system has failed young people "because the research isn't good enough, and we haven't got good data. The toxicity of the debate is perpetuated by adults, and that itself is unfair to the children who are caught in the middle of it. The children are being used as a football."</p> <p>In the report, Cass revealed that experienced clinicians who reach opposing conclusions on gender procedures have been "dismissed and invalidated." She recommends early discussions between family and children which could include "psychological and psychopharmacological treatments" to manage stress.</p> <p>"You would think such major standards of care would be based on very good studies. It's not. That was one thing that Dr. Cass shed light on and that we and others have been shedding light on," Simons explained.</p> <p>U.S. doctors who continue to promote gender-manipulation procedures are basing their positions on a Netherlands study with weak evidence, Simons argued. The Amsterdam Cohort of Gender Dysphoria considered data collected from an Amsterdam clinic between 1997 and 2018. The study was published in 2023.</p> <p>ACP supports parents and families</p> <p>"We say no child is born in the wrong body. We know that children, if they're having discomfort with their biological sex but are allowed to go through puberty, will be comfortable in their biological sex, conservatively, at 85%. That's a huge number. Some studies even say more," Simons said.</p> <p>"It breaks my heart that my profession has been captured by this ideology, and I want parents to know that there are good doctors out there who are looking out for what is best for their children. We're here, the American College of Pediatricians and our coalition, to support parents and to say, 'We're here for you.'"</p>
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By: Doctors Protecting Children Coalition, American College of Pediatricians

As a parent, grandparent, and great grandparent, I am not just outraged, shocked, but madder than 1000 disturbed hornets nests.

This body has in the last several sessions passed bills, which take away parental rights when children are 12, and can be removed from their homes, put into a strangers home, controlled by the STATE, aka foster care which is more "Gender Affirming," meaning "Mutilating" and no regard is given to the family which has nurtured and raised that child! What in the Freaking Hades is wrong with you people? Have you lost your ever loving minds? You are subscribing to the Communist Manifesto, to Crimes against Humanity, and to an attack on Western Civilization for starters. You are enabling Ideology to trump science, and worse, you are paying for these Sterilizations, Mutilations with our own money! You are paying for our Demise as a Humanity! This is not affirming care as so many Pseudo organizations claim. They offer children drugs within a few "sessions" with counselors but the catch is: This destroys bodies and minds permanently! Bodies are not even grown until past 21 years of age. You are endorsing destruction of another human being. You are literally ripping off healthy body parts, by allowing malpractice of epic proportions, and not ever seen. Tens of thousands of children have already been mutilated. The global tolls are worse! I PERSONALLY DECLARE EVERY ORGANIZATION WHICH DOES / PERFORMS MENTAL, PHYSICAL MUTILATIONS OF MINORS, HOSPITALS, COUNSELLORS, LEGISLATORS, GOVERNORS, ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES, ETC., WEB SITES, INCLUDING SCHOOL LIBRARIES ALLOWING PORN, HYPER SEXUALIZATION OF OUR MINOR CHILDREN, TO BE

TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS, AND SHOULD BE TRIED IN THE COURTS AS CRIMINALS AGAINST HUMANITY! I MEAN THAT FROM THE WHOLE OF MY BEING! Jeany Rush

God did not intend for you to destroy innocent young children, no matter which country, no matter which culture, no matter which political party! STOP THIS RIGHT NOW.

WE WILL NEVER STOP FIGHTING FOR THIS CAUSE! The attachments are in a letter to all Assembly as I did not know how to attach here!

Below is a casualty of (Uninformed Consent by even a parent on a human not able to make decisions) Secondly a painting hanging in our Rotunda of our Capitol Building which you seem to think is ok to tell your state citizens is ok, since you are gate keepers of the new Culture of Depravity of Colorado.

<p>Paula Gruentzel</p> <p>Against themselves</p>	<p>I strongly OPPOSE this bill.</p> <p>Health care is a human right. How quintessentially hypocritical of a member of the so-called "pro life" coalition to attempt to criminalize anyone for attempting to help a person in need of life-saving care. You profess to be "small government" and keeping government out of our private lives. Yet another example of hypocrisy on your part. Keep your "religion" and your "church ideology" out of our lives and out of our government.</p> <p>You say you're for "cutting spending" also. More hypocrisy. \$24,765 of tax payer money out of our state general fund. And how will this be enforced? Are your planning to spend our tax dollars creating check-points at every highway leading into our state? Will you use our tax dollars to pay our National Guard or some other entity to man those check points? That will cost a LOT of money CO voters will be exceptionally unhappy about.</p> <p>CO voters are becoming increasingly aware of what you are doing and how you are spending our tax dollars wasting our money writing harmful, ridiculous bills like this. Perhaps you are unaware of how many republican voters in CO are in favor of abortion rights and transgendered care?</p> <p>You work for US, not the other way around. Probably a good thing to keep in mind.</p>
<p>Ann McCarty</p> <p>For themselves</p>	<p>To Whom It May Concern,</p> <p>As a tax paying citizen in the the state of Colorado, I am absolutely in favor of supporting this bill, and I applaud Representative Bottoms for having the courage to bring these atrocities to the forefront of the public.</p> <p>Any person, corporation and or government agent should be charged with human trafficking for aiding and abetting abortion or gender-affirming health care services if the person is an out-of-state minor under the age of 18 years old. It should be a class 2 felony.</p> <p>Furthermore, the citizens of Colorado should have full access to the money trail supporting this heinous crimes against humanity.</p>

	<p>Colorado is need of a DOGE department and instant accountability. Are those against this bill complicit? Will the veil be lifted?</p> <p>Please look up stoptheharmdatabase.com?</p>
<p>Marie Crowley Against themselves</p>	<p>I am a member of the LGBTQ community as a gay woman. I was born a woman and continue to be. I have had the opportunity to meet many transgender people since coming out at the age of 30, over a decade ago. When I reflect on my experience as a young gay and closeted youth I am able to empathize with the internal experience of feeling different. Honestly, as a youth I experienced so much disappointment for how I felt about women---I understood it was natural, but I felt I had won the worst lottery ticket in the world. I just wanted to be "normal" in the eyes of the world. I understood that being gay was a problem and I never wanted to be a problem. I have a very giving personality and am someone who would prefer to self-sacrifice than have anyone suffer on my account. So I stayed closeted and tried my hardest to be "better than gay". Finally, after over a decade of dating men, enjoying the friendship and companionship but never ever enjoying physical intimacy, I finally came out to honor how I feel about women. I lost years of my life because I had internalized so much shame about my romantic feelings for women and lack of romantic feelings for men. Today, I feel being gay is more understood and accepted ---people don't tend to "care". And finally we have the right to get married. And finally we are legally protected against discrimination. But there was a time when people thought being gay was kinky choice or a queer fetish or even a sin. I don't wear my queerness on my sleeve. If you were to meet me you'd see a pretty "normal person" aesthetically and emotionally.</p> <p>Ok---so trans youth also have a different internal experience that is beyond what we, who do not have it, can understand. There are medical researchers and practitioners who have been able to scientifically validate the trans experience. It is a REAL experience. Same as I would not have wished to be gay I would not wish the trans gender experience upon anyone. In a perfect world with all the love and support being different for some individuals is still agonizing. I cannot imagine going through such a deeply emotional and personal experience and not having access to the support needed for navigating that internal experience. Trans gender care, in my view, is on par with grief. Imagine you have experienced great loss. And imagine someone denied you access to a church, or to a grief circle--</p>

	<p>-a space you can turn to to navigate the complexities of grief. Well, being transgender is pure grief. Transgender care is not all about facilitating the physical transition it's also about emotional care. It should absolutely not constitute a felony to enlist your child in specialized emotional care for their very real lived experience. Furthermore, for youth who decided to try hormone therapy or undergo surgery have a better chance of transitioning before puberty. I too am fearful for youth making this decision before puberty --- and that comes from my own lack of trust of children in general and also the fact that I am not trans and so don't fully understand---HOWEVER---if they don't have the option of choice of hormone therapy or don't do the surgery the feelings of oppression will exacerbate and the child will likely struggle with suicidal ideation for their whole life and blame the "government". Whereas if they have the option, take it, and maybe later feel it was a mistake---then maybe that's something to be considered in terms of malpractice like anything in medicine. Or if it wasn't and if the child and parents just made a mistake, then it's on them. I don't know what the stats are in terms of trans regretting their experience---but there must be countless optional surgeries where patients regret having a surgery because it causes more harm than good. It's just a risk any patient takes. It is unfathomable to me to criminalize care as anything let alone a felony. Transgender youth and parents deserve to be protected, legally, so they can have access to the resources they need to navigate this painful internal experience.</p>
<p>Suzanne Bassinger Against themselves</p>	<p>I oppose HB25-1145. I am retired civil engineer. My abortion at age 16 was my choice and allowed me to pursue my education and become a contributing member of society, paying taxes for over 40 years. I oppose any restraints or conditions on the health care of women, regardless of age or place of residence.</p> <p>Suzanne Bassinger</p>
<p>Leah Audin Against themselves</p>	<p>I oppose HB25-1145. It is exactly the type of statute that Coloradans do not support as evidenced by the passage of Amendment 79 in November, 2024. It represents a cruel, inhumane, misogynistic barrier for people, of all ages, seeking reproductive care and abortion services from qualified medical professionals in Colorado. And, as someone who practiced child protection law for 35 years, I believe the statute trivializes and disrespects children who are in fact the victims of human trafficking. Please do not move this bill out of committee.</p> <p>Sincerely, Leah Audin</p>

	Denver, CO 80209
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## Narr Testimony Against HB25-1145

Good afternoon,

My name is Dr. Rae Narr (pronouns: they/them), and I am a licensed clinical psychologist in the city of Denver, CO.

I am writing today in opposition to HB25-1145, and its attempts to classify bringing a minor child to Colorado for the purposes of legally-sanctioned, doctor-and-parent-supported gender affirming care, as “human trafficking.” I oppose this legislation because this will disrupt medically necessary and life-saving (as well as doctor- and parent-agreed-on) medical care for transgender and gender-diverse children, and criminalize parents, doctors, and institutions that provide this life-saving care.

This bill would criminalize bringing/assisting in bringing children from other states to the state of Colorado in order to seek gender-affirming care such as hormone therapy and puberty blockers, and define it as “human trafficking.” There is no basis in fact in this attempt. Youth who come to Colorado to seek gender-affirming care must have both parents agree to this care. A parent cannot bring a child here to receive care without the consent of the other parent. There is no reason to criminalize an action which is known and agreed to by both parents. Institutions and providers offering this care are already legally unable to provide this care if a parent/guardian does not consent. A family choosing to bring their child to another state for medical care is no different in this instance than a family choosing to travel to another state in order to seek the best surgeons, oncologists, or other specialists for any other medical need.

As a psychologist, I work with the transgender population across the lifespan, and have seen firsthand on a daily basis how access to gender-affirming medical care is quite literally life-saving. I work with youth from around the United States who have sought care in Colorado due to their home states banning this care. I have sat with multiple families who burst into tears realizing that they can be helped here. People seek out the medical clinic in which I work because they know, through word of mouth, that we are a safe and affirming space. The children and teenagers I sit with, as well as their parents, frequently describe their desperation in their home states, and their relief that someone is offering to help them/their children. I work with these families on their readiness to begin care, and across the board, if they have made it to another state, the full family is ready and knowledgeable.

Given that parents are *required* to consent to gender affirming medical care, this is a full family issue. Parents know their children and children’s needs. Medical professionals, parents, and young people together should be the ones choosing a patient’s medical care. My transgender adult patients are further evidence of the harm caused by limiting access to this care. Their rates of mental health difficulties directly tied to gender dysphoria are significantly higher than the

mental health concerns in the general population, and these rates recede as patients are allowed to access care. However, the care that young people access is likely, per research, to head off many of the mental health problems they would otherwise face as adults, because they are able to live longer as their true selves and face less societal discrimination. Gender affirming care is suicide prevention. This is something I can attest to personally as well as cite research on professionally. This bill would remove choice from families, individuals, and medical professionals due to fear of litigation, and put transgender youth at significant personal risk which could otherwise be mitigated.

I strongly urge you to oppose and reject this bill (HB25-1145) in order to allow medical decisions to remain in the hands of the parents, youth, and professionals who know most intimately as well as medically what is best for these patients. This allows for personal and family choice, which is a dignity that should be afforded to all people, regardless of gender identity. Please do not allow these critical decisions to be made by political actors who are significantly less versed in the outcomes of denying or allowing this care and working to simply push a deeply bigoted agenda.

My name is Lindsay Nelson and I am a Master of Social Work student at MSU Denver. Thank you for this opportunity to speak my truth on this matter. I am testifying against HB25-1145: Trafficking Minor for Abortion or Transgender Care.

Let me be clear: I'm not just standing against this bill because I disagree with its fundamental premise, but because it threatens the very well-being of minors, vulnerable youth, and the core values of humanity and compassion that this state was founded upon. Rep. Scott Bottoms' proposed bill, which criminalizes the act of bringing a minor to Colorado for abortion or gender-affirming care, is nothing short of harmful, dangerous, and an outright attack on human dignity. It is rooted in a misunderstanding of both medical care and human identity, and it has no place in a society that claims to value life and freedom.

Let's start by addressing the science—because this bill is rooted in an absence of compassion, and it distorts what we know about gender diversity and mental health. Leading medical organizations, including the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American Psychiatric Association, have all affirmed the necessity and validity of gender-affirming care. These organizations recognize that access to such care is not only life-saving but also essential for the mental and emotional well-being of transgender and gender-diverse minors.

Gender-affirming care isn't a trend or a "fad" that has "popped up" in recent decades; it is based on decades of clinical research and practical experience in healthcare. Minors who receive gender-affirming care are statistically less likely to experience mental health crises, and their chances of leading a healthy, fulfilling life dramatically increase. This care doesn't harm minors—it saves them. You cannot deny the evidence that the denial of gender-affirming care leads to devastating outcomes: higher rates of suicide, self-harm, depression, and violence. And yet, this bill seems to be more concerned with imposing ideological views than it is with the real, lived experiences of these children, who are already at risk of rejection, violence, and bigotry from the very people who should be offering them love and support.

What is also extremely troublesome, is the misuse of the term "trafficking" in the language of this bill. Human trafficking is a heinous crime involving exploitation, abuse, and forced coercion—but to mislabel compassionate care as "trafficking" is a diabolical distortion of truth. You are smearing the word trafficking to create a false narrative of harm where none exists. What you're really doing is criminalizing the love, care, and support that families provide for their children who need it the most. It's dangerous, it's deceitful, and it's absolutely reprehensible to use such a harmful term to describe the act of supporting minors in their journey to authenticity and self-determination.

As a clinical social worker, I see firsthand the anguish of the minors I work with every single day—young people who are already terrified of rejection, of being misunderstood, of feeling like they don't belong. Young people who want to kill themselves. Some of these minors have been forced to hide their true selves from their families and communities, afraid that they will be punished or cast aside if they come out. They need care, not criminalization. They need affirmation, not condemnation. They need help to navigate a world that often tells them they don't matter.

I can't begin to convey how much damage this bill would do to the mental health of the youth who are already at risk. And yet, what is most tragic is that you don't care. You don't care that this bill will push these children even further into despair. You don't care that young people's lives will be lost because they weren't able to access the care they so desperately need. You would rather play politics with children's lives than face the truth: these children are not a threat to society, and their joy—their truth—is something that should be celebrated, not demonized.

And here's the truth about joy: Trans and queer joy is not just for trans and queer people. It's for everyone. The resilience, the authenticity, the love that comes from embracing who you truly are—it's something we can all learn from. Straight and cisgender people can find joy in celebrating the beauty of human diversity. It's not something to fear; it's something to celebrate. Trans joy and queer joy show us how to be whole and genuine—how to live in a world that may not always understand us but still find joy in our existence. And that joy, that community, is for everyone, no matter how they identify.

This state, Colorado, is known for being a beacon of freedom and acceptance. It should not be the place where hate and intolerance are codified into law. We will not go backward. Colorado will not become known as "the hate state" again, no matter how hard you try to make it so. God loves us all exactly as we were created. "God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them" (Genesis 1:27). The Bible is full of contradictions and is open to interpretation. You cannot argue that. You, yourself, pick and choose which verses to live by and which ones to reject. To me, this verse not only implies that all people have inherent dignity and worth who should be treated with respect and honor (as you should God), but also implies that God, in fact, is gender fluid and holds both female and male spirit. I choose my belief, you choose yours. But don't use your beliefs for harming children. You have no right.

Now, you can continue to waste your time passing violent, harmful bills that harm a population that poses no threat to you or to society, or you can choose to invest that time and energy in learning, in connecting, and in understanding the people like me and the ones I love. You may just find that we are good people, people who want nothing more than to live in a world that celebrates us all for who we truly are. Instead of continuing to tear down the lives of young people who need care, why not invest your time in something more meaningful? Something that actually brings people together. Something that fosters understanding, compassion, and love. You might just find that those things—those things that transcend fear and division—are exactly what this world needs most.

All children! All. Children...deserve to grow up into adults -- to live and thrive.

With a heart full of gratitude, hope, and compassion,

Lindsay Nelson

CONCERNED  
WOMEN *for* AMERICA  
LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE

February 11, 2025  
Judiciary  
Testimony in Support of HB25-1145

Chair Mabrey, and members of the Committee, I am Dr. Karen Pennington, nurse, educator, and State Director for Concerned Women for America (CWA) of Colorado. We are the largest grassroots, public policy women's organization in the country. Today I am testifying for Concerned Women for America Legislative Action Committee in support of HB25-1145.

This bill is necessary in response to the passage of Proposition 79 in the November 2024 election. Proposition 79 leaves Colorado open to increased human trafficking from out of state persons and offers tax-payer funded abortions. The potential for trafficking of minors since passage of this Proposition is most egregious. As adults we have the responsibility to protect children from harm, something we can agree is most important. Of note, the issue of child sex trafficking and prostitution has seen explosive growth in our country from \$500 million to \$150 billion per year. The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation cites that a child is bought or sold for sex every two minutes – every day in this country<sup>1</sup>. This issue is modern-day slavery – and a new abolitionist movement. We cannot ignore or look the other way any longer.

As legislators, you can make a difference and pass legislation to protect children and deter crime in Colorado. National Institute of Justice indicates -the chance of being caught is the most effective deterrent to reducing crime<sup>2</sup>.

HB25-1145 is common sense logic and Concerned Women for America of Colorado urges you to: acknowledge the extent of this by Voting "YES" on HB25-1145.

Thank You.

Karen Pennington, PhD, RN  
State Director, Concerned Women for America of Colorado  
[director@colorado.cwfa.org](mailto:director@colorado.cwfa.org)  
ConcernedWomen.org

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<sup>1</sup> <https://concernedwomen.org/uncovering-the-epstein-trafficking-ring-with-special-guest-sen-marsha-blackburn/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://nij.ojp.gov/topics/articles/five-things-about-deterrence>

**House Judiciary**

**02/11/2025 01:30 PM**

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<b>Name, Position, Representing</b>	<b>Typed Text of Testimony</b>
Jeany Rush For themselves	<p>TO: COMMITTEE ON HOUSE JUDICIARY</p> <p>RE: HB2-1145 TRAFFICKING MINOR FOR ABORTION OR TRANSGENDER CARE</p> <p>SPONSOR: REPRESENTATIVE SCOTT BOTTOMS 2-11-25</p> <p>FROM: JEANY RUSH, COLORADO SPRINGS CONSTITUENT –</p> <p>VOTE: YES YES YES PROTECT THE CHILDREN NOW!</p> <p>Concerning prohibiting the human trafficking of an out-of-state minor into Colorado for the purpose of assisting the minor in obtaining certain reproductive health-care services. Subjects: CRIMES, CORRECTIONS, ENFORCEMENT, HEALTH CARE &amp; HEALTH INSURANCE Real Subjects: Kidnapping, Trafficking, Mutilation of minor children</p> <p>NO CHILD CAN GIVE INFORMED CONSENT LEAVE THOSE KIDS ALONE</p> <p>Many crucial changes have occurred regarding current protocols, which will begin to reshape the policy and cultural landscape surrounding transgender ideology in the coming years.</p> <p>On January 28, President Trump signed two significant Executive Orders, declaring his intent to return our country to true and ethical standards regarding sex.</p> <p>Under the first order, Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government, he affirms two (and only two) distinct biological sexes: male and female.</p> <p>Under the second order that will protect children with gender dysphoria while Protecting Children from Chemical and Surgical Mutilation, hospitals across the country will be required to suspend any gender interventions on individuals under the age of 19. This Order states that it will neither fund, sponsor, promote, assist, nor support medical interventions such as puberty blockers or surgeries meant to “so – called transition” a child to the opposite sex</p> <p>By: Doctors Protecting Children Coalition, American College of Pediatricians</p> <p>TRAFFICKING OF CHILDREN IS PREVELANT ALL AROUND US!</p> <p>HOW DO YOU OR WILL YOU, AS A LEGISLATOR EVEN KNOW THAT CHILD/MINOR COMING TO COLORADO FOR AN ABORTION OR GENDER MUTILATION THERAPY IS HERE ON FREE WILL?</p> <p>“Each year over 400,000 children are reported missing in the USA, which is over 1,100 per day!” Nearly 50 Million Human Beings globally are victims of modern-day slavery, whether sex trafficking, labor, forced marriage, etc. Estimate is at least 1/3 of them are children, and as young as newborn! (2021 International Labor Organization)</p>

	<p>Approximately 300,000 sex-trafficked children are in the US.</p> <p>Global profits are approximately \$150 Billion, and \$99 Billion is from sex trafficking. \$32 Billion of that is in the US.</p> <p>Sadly, it would appear we are the world's largest sex buyer!</p> <p>Let that sink into your mind. This means, in every community of America alone, there are evil forces working to find and steal children, and adults for the trafficking industry. The suspected criminals come from all walks of life, from cartels, from government organizations hiding in the wings, from other criminal forces, from churches, from Satan worship groups, from mobsters wanting to make huge bucks! They do not value life! Only the Dollar\$\$\$\$. One child any age, can be abused as many as 20 plus times daily. When they have worn them out, they simply sell their organs!</p> <p>This Business is as lucrative as the drug trade, if not more! It also includes satanic ritualistic activities, even in our city, in our state! We have a BIG Corridor for these activities right here in Colorado!</p> <p>A coalition within the American College of Pediatricians (ACP) released Thursday its "Doctors Protecting Children Declaration." The document encourages American medical associations like the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Pediatric Endocrine Society and others – organizations that are currently promoting harmful gender-manipulation procedures for minors; procedures like puberty blockers, surgical options and more – to just say no.</p> <p>One was the leaked documents from the files of the World Professional Association of Transgender Health that showed doubts, disagreement and concerns by doctors performing gender surgeries. The docs showed the docs struggling to define standards of care.</p> <p>One debated topic was whether minors can truly give approval for gender procedures which will have lifelong effects. "What has been currently happening is, frankly, not what we need to be doing, ethically," one of the medical professionals told his colleagues.</p> <p>Simons stated, in reference to the leaked documents: "They exposed the very doctors who are doing these things, their doubts, their concerns. So that was quite alarming."</p> <p>More recently, Dr. Hillary Cass, of England's National Health Service, released the final report of her review gender care for minors just as NHS is expanding its gender services for children and youth nationwide. NHS has said it will consider the report as it considers future policy.</p> <p>Cass said the system has failed young people "because the research isn't good enough, and we haven't got good data. The toxicity of the debate is perpetuated by adults, and that itself is unfair to the children who are caught in the middle of it. The children are being used as a football."</p> <p>In the report, Cass revealed that experienced clinicians who reach opposing conclusions on gender procedures have been "dismissed and invalidated." She recommends early discussions between family and children which could include "psychological and psychopharmacological treatments" to manage stress.</p>
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	<p>"You would think such major standards of care would be based on very good studies. It's not. That was one thing that Dr. Cass shed light on and that we and others have been shedding light on," Simons explained.</p> <p>U.S. doctors who continue to promote gender-manipulation procedures are basing their positions on a Netherlands study with weak evidence, Simons argued. The Amsterdam Cohort of Gender Dysphoria considered data collected from an Amsterdam clinic between 1997 and 2018. The study was published in 2023.</p> <p>ACP supports parents and families</p> <p>"We say no child is born in the wrong body. We know that children, if they're having discomfort with their biological sex but are allowed to go through puberty, will be comfortable in their biological sex, conservatively, at 85%. That's a huge number. Some studies even say more," Simons said.</p> <p>"It breaks my heart that my profession has been captured by this ideology, and I want parents to know that there are good doctors out there who are looking out for what is best for their children. We're here, the American College of Pediatricians and our coalition, to support parents and to say, 'We're here for you.'"</p> <p>By: Doctors Protecting Children Coalition, American College of Pediatricians</p> <p>As a parent, grandparent, and great grandparent, I am not just outraged, shocked, but madder than 1000 disturbed hornets nests.</p> <p>This body has in the last several sessions passed bills, which take away parental rights when children are 12, and can be removed from their homes, put into a strangers home, controlled by the STATE, aka foster care which is more "Gender Affirming," meaning "Mutilating" and no regard is given to the family which has nurtured and raised that child! What in the Freaking Hades is wrong with you people? Have you lost your ever loving minds? You are subscribing to the Communist Manifesto, to Crimes against Humanity, and to an attack on Western Civilization for starters. You are enabling Ideology to trump science, and worse, you are paying for these Sterilizations, Mutilations with our own money! You are paying for our Demise as a Humanity! This is not affirming care as so many Pseudo organizations claim. They offer children drugs within a few "sessions" with counselors but the catch is: This destroys bodies and minds permanently! Bodies are not even grown until past 21 years of age. You are endorsing destruction of another human being. You are literally ripping off healthy body parts, by allowing malpractice of epic proportions, and not ever seen. Tens of thousands of children have already been mutilated. The global tolls are worse! I PERSONALLY DECLARE EVERY ORGANIZATION WHICH DOES / PERFORMS MENTAL, PHYSICAL MUTILATIONS OF MINORS, HOSPITALS, COUNSELLORS, LEGISLATORS, GOVERNORS, ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES, ETC., WEB SITES, INCLUDING SCHOOL LIBRARIES ALLOWING PORN, HYPER SEXUALIZATION OF OUR MINOR CHILDREN, TO BE</p> <p>TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS, AND SHOULD BE TRIED IN THE COURTS AS CRIMINALS AGAINST HUMANITY! I MEAN THAT FROM THE WHOLE OF MY BEING!</p> <p>Jeany Rush</p> <p>God did not intend for you to destroy innocent young children, no matter which country, no matter which culture, no matter which political party! STOP THIS RIGHT NOW.</p>
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	<p>WE WILL NEVER STOP FIGHTING FOR THIS CAUSE! The attachments are in a letter to all Assembly as I did not know how to attach here!</p> <p>Below is a casualty of (Uninformed Consent by even a parent on a human not able to make decisions) Secondly a painting hanging in our Rotunda of our Capitol Building which you seem to think is ok to tell your state citizens is ok, since you are gate keepers of the new Culture of Depravity of Colorado.</p>
<p>Paula Gruentzel Against themselves</p>	<p>I strongly OPPOSE this bill.</p> <p>Health care is a human right. How quintessentially hypocritical of a member of the so-called "pro life" coalition to attempt to criminalize anyone for attempting to help a person in need of life-saving care. You profess to be "small government" and keeping government out of our private lives. Yet another example of hypocrisy on your part. Keep your "religion" and your "church ideology" out of our lives and out of our government.</p> <p>You say you're for "cutting spending" also. More hypocrisy. \$24,765 of tax payer money out of our state general fund. And how will this be enforced? Are you planning to spend our tax dollars creating check-points at every highway leading into our state? Will you use our tax dollars to pay our National Guard or some other entity to man those check points? That will cost a LOT of money CO voters will be exceptionally unhappy about.</p> <p>CO voters are becoming increasingly aware of what you are doing and how you are spending our tax dollars wasting our money writing harmful, ridiculous bills like this. Perhaps you are unaware of how many republican voters in CO are in favor of abortion rights and transgendered care?</p> <p>You work for US, not the other way around. Probably a good thing to keep in mind.</p>
<p>Ann McCarty For themselves</p>	<p>To Whom It May Concern,</p> <p>As a tax paying citizen in the the state of Colorado, I am absolutely in favor of supporting this bill, and I applaud Representative Bottoms for having the courage to bring these atrocities to the forefront of the public.</p> <p>Any person, corporation and or government agent should be charged with human trafficking for aiding and abetting abortion or gender-affirming health care services if the person is an out-of-state minor under the age of 18 years old. It should be a class 2 felony. Furthermore, the citizens of Colorado should have full access to the money trail supporting this heinous crimes against humanity.</p>

	<p>Colorado is need of a DOGE department and instant accountability.</p> <p>Are those against this bill complicit? Will the veil be lifted?</p> <p>Please look up stoptheharmdatabase.com?</p>
<p>Marie Crowley Against themselves</p>	<p>I am a member of the LGBTQ community as a gay woman. I was born a woman and continue to be. I have had the opportunity to meet many transgender people since coming out at the age of 30, over a decade ago. When I reflect on my experience as a young gay and closeted youth I am able to empathize with the internal experience of feeling different. Honestly, as a youth I experienced so much disappointment for how I felt about women---I understood it was natural, but I felt I had won the worst lottery ticket in the world. I just wanted to be "normal" in the eyes of the world. I understood that being gay was a problem and I never wanted to be a problem. I have a very giving personality and am someone who would prefer to self-sacrifice than have anyone suffer on my account. So I stayed closeted and tried my hardest to be "better than gay". Finally, after over a decade of dating men, enjoying the friendship and companionship but never ever enjoying physical intimacy, I finally came out to honor how I feel about women. I lost years of my life because I had internalized so much shame about my romantic feelings for women and lack of romantic feelings for men. Today, I feel being gay is more understood and accepted --people don't tend to "care". And finally we have the right to get married. And finally we are legally protected against discrimination. But there was a time when people thought being gay was kinky choice or a queer fetish or even a sin. I don't wear my queerness on my sleeve. If you were to meet me you'd see a pretty "normal person" aesthetically and emotionally.</p> <p>Ok---so trans youth also have a different internal experience that is beyond what we, who do not have it, can understand. There are medical researchers and practitioners who have been able to scientifically validate the trans experience. It is a REAL experience. Same as I would not have wished to be gay I would not wish the trans gender experience upon anyone. In a perfect world with all the love and support being different for some individuals is still agonizing. I cannot imagine going through such a deeply emotional and personal experience and not having access to the support needed for navigating that internal experience. Trans gender care, in my view, is on par with grief. Imagine you have experienced great loss. And imagine someone denied you access to a church, or to a grief circle---a space you can turn to to navigate the complexities of grief. Well, being transgender is pure grief. Transgender care is not all about facilitating the physical transition it's also about emotional care. It should absolutely not constitute a felony to enlist your child in specialized emotional care for their very real lived experience. Furthermore, for youth who decided to try hormone therapy or undergo surgery have a better chance of transitioning before puberty. I too am fearful for youth making this decision before puberty --- and that comes from my own lack of trust of children in general and also the fact that I am not trans and so don't fully understand---HOWEVER---if they don't have the option of choice of hormone therapy or don't do the surgery the feelings of oppression will exacerbate and the child will likely struggle with suicidal ideation for their whole life and blame the "government". Whereas if they have the option, take</p>

	<p>it, and maybe later feel it was a mistake---then maybe that's something to be considered in terms of malpractice like anything in medicine. Or if it wasn't and if the child and parents just made a mistake, then it's on them. I don't know what the stats are in terms of trans regretting their experience---but there must be countless optional surgeries where patients regret having a surgery because it causes more harm than good. It's just a risk any patient takes. It is unfathomable to me to criminalize care as anything let alone a felony. Transgender youth and parents deserve to be protected, legally, so they can have access to the resources they need to navigate this painful internal experience.</p>
<p>Suzanne Bassinger Against themselves</p>	<p>I oppose HB25-1145. I am retired civil engineer. My abortion at age 16 was my choice and allowed me to pursue my education and become a contributing member of society, paying taxes for over 40 years. I oppose any restraints or conditions on the health care of women, regardless of age or place of residence.</p> <p>Suzanne Bassinger</p>
<p>Leah Audin Against themselves</p>	<p>I oppose HB25-1145. It is exactly the type of statute that Coloradans do not support as evidenced by the passage of Amendment 79 in November, 2024. It represents a cruel, inhumane, misogynistic barrier for people, of all ages, seeking reproductive care and abortion services from qualified medical professionals in Colorado. And, as someone who practiced child protection law for 35 years, I believe the statute trivializes and disrespects children who are in fact the victims of human trafficking. Please do not move this bill out of committee.</p> <p>Sincerely, Leah Audin Denver, CO 80209</p>