

**House State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs**

**04/22/2024 01:30 PM**

**HCR24-1005 Parents' Bill of Rights**

**Typed Text of Testimony Submitted**

<b>Name, Position, Representing</b>	<b>Typed Text of Testimony</b>
Sabrina Herrick Amend themselves	<p>I have very strong but opposing opinions on 2 specific parts of this bill.</p> <p>I am strongly in favor of the language that protects a parent's right to be informed if a crime is committed against their child. My daughter was assaulted by Tyler Zanella, a now ex Poudre School District transportation employee. I was informed by the district as soon as she was identified as a victim, and given an opportunity by the district to watch the footage. However, once Fort Collins Police took over the investigation, I was denied access to details as simple as the dates the assaults took place. I had to access this information via a civil attorney. The situation was heartbreaking and denial of information by the police only added to my pain as I tried to protect my daughter. I ask that whatever is done to the remainder of this bill, that this section be left in tact.</p> <p>On the other hand, I strongly oppose the language that would mandate informing parents that their children are gender non-conforming. In the US, 41% of LGBT people report physical and/or sexual abuse in their childhood. A 2019 study showed that Colorado LGBT people aged 18-25 are twice as likely as non-LGBT 18-25 year olds to be homeless, and the Williams Institute reports that the top reasons for LGBT youth ending up homeless include rejection by family and abuse by family due to their identity. Homelessness increases risk of sexual abuse, health issues, drug abuse and criminal charges, as well as use of tax dollars for social welfare and rehabilitative programs. Outing LGBT children to their parents is dangerous and should be discouraged, not mandated. I ask that language mandating the outing of LGBT children be removed from the bill.</p>
Christine Lee For	Parental rights to determine the upbringing of their children needs to be codified into our constitution to protect parents. If it's not codified in the constitution then it can be taken away at any time. If you take

<p>themselves</p>	<p>away the freedom of parents to raise their children, we will leave CO and you will lose out on collecting our taxes. We want the freedom to raise our children based on our beliefs, convictions, and research. Children are born to parents and not to the state therefore it is the parents that have the right to determine what is best for their children, not the state.</p>
<p>Dawn Fritz Against Colorado Parent Teacher Association</p>	<p>Colorado PTA opposes HCR24-1005</p> <p>Family engagement has been at the heart of PTA’s mission since the association’s founding in 1897, and PTA has historically defended the right of parents to be involved in advocating for children. We agree that the government – at any level – should not abridge the inherent rights of parents.</p> <p>Over the last few years, there has been increased interest from policymakers in uplifting the parent voice and strengthening family engagement in our education system. What is most needed are policies that emphasize inclusive and meaningful family engagement and promote safe, welcoming, supportive and inclusive schools for all students and families.</p> <p>At the federal level, PTA supports The Bill of Rights for Students and Parents Resolution (H.Res.219), and we would be happy to support a similar resolution in Colorado.</p> <p>However, we oppose HCR24-1005 because parents already have statutory and constitutional rights with regard to their children, including rights to rights to direct education, direct moral or religious training, chose among educational options, consent to medical and mental health care, deny their children access to information about health and reproductive health care at school, seek medical and religious exemptions from vaccinations, access educational materials, and access education records.</p> <p>The very limited restrictions on some of these rights have been enacted through law for practical and sensible reasons, such as quickly providing access to mental health care and resources that prevent suicide. PTA also supports laws that are sensitive to developmental differences among children and youth, such as those</p>

	<p>that treat adolescents differently from children under the age of 12 – which would be prevented by this legislation.</p> <p>Unfortunately, beyond not being necessary the over broad scope of some of the statements in HCR24-1005 would open the door to vouchers and decrease immunization rates which would increase the risk of outbreaks of preventable diseases.</p>
<p>Stephen Scaer For themselves</p>	<p>Although I’m not a Colorado resident, I have a grandson who lives in the state, and I’m concerned about his future. So I ask you to please vote in favor of HCR24-1005 and allow Colorado Voters to consider a constitutional amendment that would provide parents with a bill of rights. It’s especially important that parents have the right to know if their children are experiencing gender incongruence.</p> <p>We know from England’s Cass Review released this month, which studied gender identity services minors, as well as systematic reviews by health panels in Finland and Sweden, that there is no sound evidence that puberty blockers and hormones improve mental health, much less prevent suicide. These reviews also note that if left unaffirmed, most children will outgrow their discomfort with their sex.</p> <p>The Cass Review recognizes that social media and peer pressure contributed to the recent spike in teens identifying as transgender, especially among girls going through puberty. It warns against socially transitioning through names and pronouns since that leads to medical transition.</p> <p>By promoting an ideology that teaches a girl can have a boy’s gender identity, and that this, not her body, is her authentic self, and by socially transitioning children without parent consent, public schools have become a pipeline to gender clinics. Moms and dads need to know if their children are experiencing gender incongruence so that can protect them from being exploited by the medical industry and left with life-long harms, including atrophy of the urinary and reproductive systems, hysterectomies, and elevated risks of cancer, thrombosis, and heart disease.</p>

	<p>Please give voters the opportunity to decide whether parents have the right to be protected from an ideology unsupported by research and support HCR24-1005.</p>
<p>Sharon Kortrey For themselves</p>	<p>4-22-24</p> <p>RE: HCR24-1005</p> <p>I am writing to voice my support for HCR24-1005, Parent's Bill of Rights. Representative DeGraaf, thank you for putting together this amendment that will protect our children and grandchildren. This is imperative that this amendment is passed. Why our state needs to have parental rights explained to them is beyond me. I pray that our Heavenly Father is with you all today as you fight for our children.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Constituent Sharon Kortrey</p>
<p>Jeany Rush For themselves</p>	<p>TO: HOUSE STATE CIVIC MILITARY &amp; VETERANS AFFAIRS 4-22-24 SPONSOR: DEGRAAF RE: HCR24-1005 PARENTS BILL OF RIGHTS VOTE: YES YES FROM: JEANY RUSH COLORADO SPRINGS CONCERNED CONSTITUENT</p> <p>The fact that I am having to write to this committee to even ask for a positive response is mind blowing! The fact that we need to do an amendment to protect parents rights for their children regarding the rights to protect children and parents seems in another world.</p> <p>Parents right to direct upbringing, moral and religious training- Enrolling kids in choice of education- Parents right to consent to medical / medical healthcare- Parent right to be notified if criminal offense against kid- Parent right to withhold consent to participation in the current reproductive health &amp; safety Education(much of which leads to literal mutilation and mental/physical harm)-</p>

	<p>Parent right to opt out of data collections-</p> <p>Parents right to review all materials kids get in library-</p> <p>Parents right to access to all records of child</p> <p>Parents right to be notified if child has gender confusion( which often is created by the SEL DEI CRT and counselors leanings to these NON affirming Crimes against our kids)</p> <p>Let me just say. These rights would and should be automatically part of what parents have a right to. These rights should be a part of our constitutional rights as humans and our God given rights to thrive, not become pin cushions for grooming, pesos, gender confused edicts, unlawfully put into current pseudo laws, bills, statutes resolutions, etc. Please pass this bill and show we the people, that you have common sense, and human decency as part of your ethos. We the People demand no less, and we certainly deserve much more protection, and this bill goes a long way toward that sanity.</p>
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