



Women's Declaration International

Testimony of Elisa Turner
Before the Senate Judiciary Committee
House Bill 24-1071
OPPOSE
March 27, 2024

Thank you for allowing me to testify regarding HB 24-1071. My name is Elisa Turner and I am a registered Democrat living in Denver, Colorado.

Women's Declaration International (WDI) is a global, nonpartisan organization of volunteer women dedicated to protecting women's sex-based rights in accordance with the [Declaration on Women's Sex-Based Rights](#) ("the Declaration"). [WDI USA](#) is Women's Declaration International's U.S. chapter. Our opposition to this bill is based on Article 8 of the Declaration, which calls for the elimination of violence against women. As Article 8 notes, "[i]n order to create effective policies to eliminate sex-based violence, we need accurate data about who the victims and perpetrators are." Granting felons name and sex-marker changes based on the nebulous concept of "gender identity," regardless of the type of crime committed, presents an unacceptable risk to the community, particularly to women and children.

The bill in question does not limit what type of felony a person can be convicted of and still receive a new legal identity; so a new legal identity would be available to high-risk, sexually violent predators and men convicted of domestic violence. By claiming to be women, men convicted of crimes such as stalking, rape, and domestic violence would be able to gain entrance to the same sex-segregated services that are supposed to be protecting victims of such crimes. People who understand male violence against women and children know that there is no loophole too small for a perpetrator to exploit, and men are already using similar laws to gain access to potential victim pools.

For example: on March 18th, Spain's Councillor of Family, Youth, and Social Affairs in Madrid (Ana Dávila-Ponce de León Municio) [sent a letter](#) to the Ministry of Equality outlining her concerns about six cases of men charged with violence against women changing their legal sex-markers to female. Three of these men had made requests to stay at the same shelters as their victims. In refusing these men access to the shelters, employees may be in violation of the law. As Dávila-Ponce de León wrote in her letter, these policies "[put] both the victims and the professionals in danger, and the protection [system at risk](#)."

In the United States, Dávila-Ponce de León's concerns are [not hypothetical](#). Harvey Marcellin served almost 50 years in prison for murdering two girlfriends, one of whom he stabbed to death and then left her body in a bag in Central Park. In 2019 the New York Department of Corrections released 81-year-old Marcellin, who then proclaimed a transgender identity and began going by the name "Marceline Harvey." Harvey was admitted to a women's program despite the objections of staff and other residents. In 2022, Harvey killed and dismembered 68-year-old Susan Leyden, a woman who was also seeking city housing. Ann Berman, the intake nurse at the shelter who interviewed Harvey, commented in an interview with *The New York Times* that "his [Harvey's] feelings and identity were far more important than all the other women that were terrified of him."

The legislature is actively removing important safeguards designed to protect vulnerable community members when they allow people with felony convictions to obtain name and sex-marker changes merely

by declaring a new “gender identity.” A person’s “innate sense of their gender” is a purely subjective experience that cannot be verified by any outside party because it is objectively not true that men can become women. WDI urges you to oppose this bill.

Elisa Turner

Signatory, Declaration on Women’s Sex-Based Rights

HB24-1071

3/25/24

Thanks so much for voting 'No' on ANY GENDER changes!

ALMIGHTY GOD CREATED ONLY 2 GENDERS - MALE & FEMALE!

God destroyed Sodom + Gomorrah because of that Abomination! & Hitler destroyed Germany, also!

JESUS FORGIVES ALL SIN OF REBELLION AGAINST HIM!

JESUS DIED ON THE CROSS + ROSE AGAIN THE 3RD DAY! To SET US FREE FROM ALL ADDICTIONS!

JOHN 3:3, 7, 8:37 I THESS 4:16-18

RAPTURE READY?

DAVID MBBK, MA
USAF VETERAN, VFW CHAPLAIN
FORMER PENTECOSTAL PASTOR

3409 W 6TH ST. RD. GREELEY, CO 80634

Senate Judiciary

03/27/2024 01:30 PM

HB24-1071 Name Change to Conform with Gender Identity

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
Lale Nenadovic Against themselves	I am against the bill which would BAN nearly all commonly used semi-automatic firearms, decimate our rights and force 90% of gun shops in our state to close down.
Ashley Young For themselves	<p>I am submitting written testimony today as a concerned citizen, deeply troubled by the ongoing challenges faced by the transgender community. I am a white, cisgender mother of three teenagers. Like many of you, the passing of HB24-1071 would likely never affect me personally. It would not cause any harm to anyone in our community. I want to specifically express my strong support for HB24-1071 and urge you to actively combat transphobia, both within our legislature and in the wider community.</p> <p>HB24-1071 is a crucial piece of legislation that will improve the lives of countless transgender individuals in Colorado. By allowing those with felony convictions to change their legal name to reflect their gender identity, it removes a significant barrier to self-affirmation and equal access to opportunities. I have heard some individuals against HB24-1071 claim that it would give an opportunity for sex offenders to change their identity. This is inaccurate. Sex offenders must re-register annually, and re-register if they move or legally change their name. Their former name will still be listed as an alias. Their current photo will be updated. Therefore, it will not protect criminals or sex offenders.</p> <p>However, the fight for transgender rights continues to face significant challenges, fueled by hateful rhetoric and misinformation. It is deeply concerning to witness transphobic statements being used to undermine the dignity and rights of our fellow citizens.</p>

	<p>While I understand the importance of open discourse, transphobia masquerading as debate is unacceptable. As representatives of the people, you have a responsibility to stand up for the most vulnerable members of our society, including the transgender community.</p> <p>This fight cannot be solely carried by the transgender community itself. As cisgender allies, we have a moral imperative to speak out against discrimination and misinformation. We must hold our colleagues accountable for their words and actions, and actively challenge harmful narratives that perpetuate fear and prejudice.</p> <p>I encourage you all to demonstrate your commitment to creating a more inclusive and equitable Colorado for all.</p> <p>Thank you, Ashley Young</p>
<p>Keri Beaumont For themselves</p>	<p>Thank you for this opportunity to speak. My name is Keri and My pronouns are she her. I live in Douglas county and am a mom. I am here in support of this bill bc we need to do everything we can to protect against the national movement of hate, homophobia and transphobia. I have seen this movement directly and negatively affect my family in my community here in Colorado.</p> <p>Tiara’s law is important foremost for safety and mental health. Co needs to be leading in protections for the most vulnerable people in marginalized communities. And this bill is one step to do that.</p> <p>The arguments from the other side are not valid as there are steps in place to follow someone who has a name change for other reasons. But it will save lives. Given the violence against and increased risk of suicide, in this population, we need to ensure in any way we can, safety and dignity. Let’s stop pretending that the hate is anything but. It’s not love (which they like to claim it is), it’s not protection, and it’s not freedom.</p> <p>The American way is to ensure liberty and justice for all. Let’s make sure that includes people who are transgender.</p>
<p>Jeany Rush</p>	<p>TO: HOUSE JUDICIARY 3-27-24</p>

<p>Against themselves</p>	<p>RE: HB24-1071 NAME CHANGE TO CONFORM WITH GENDER IDENTITY</p> <p>FROM: JEANY RUSH, COLORADO SPRINGS CONCERNED CONSTITUENT</p> <p>VOTE: NO NO NO</p> <p>This bill should not be declared a safety clause based on the whole purpose of the bill! You have first and foremost violated the safety of the majority of the general populace! A felons safety should not be more important than the safety of innocent citizens. So first, this is not truly a safety clause issue.</p> <p>Further, If someone wanted to identify as a purple dinosaur they could use this bill to change their identity if they got convicted of a felony.</p> <p>The truth is, the agenda of this body has become so insane, criminal, and distorted, as to move from the sublime to the ridiculous. You all cannot really believe this is serving anything, but your own delusions! It is offensive and unconstitutional for you all to continue to violate our rights as a law abiding populace.</p> <p>Our children are the ones that need protection from these insane edicts you put into play. Further, I object to giving criminals more places to hide, while they continue to pounce on the innocent in our society. You are helping to rapidly destroy and cause the decline of decent society.</p> <p>Outrage does not begin to describe my feelings on these measures.</p>
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