



March 2024

To: House Health and Human Services Committee
Re: HB24-1040 Gender Affirming Healthcare Provider Study

Dear Committee Members,

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is one of the oldest women's organizations in the country, empowering women since 1881. The mission of AAUW is to advance equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy. More than 700 community leaders are members of AAUW branches around Colorado.

One of our priorities is to pursue policies that advance full access to civil rights for a diverse society. We believe HB24-1040 is a step forward in providing the services available for those who need gender affirming healthcare.

For these reasons, AAUW of Colorado strongly supports House Bill 1040 and requests your YES vote in committee and throughout the process of becoming law.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Su Ryden". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Su Ryden
AAUW Colorado Public Policy Co-Director

16699 E. Kentucky Ave.
Aurora, CO 80017
303.898.5797
suryden25@gmail.com

American Association of University Women--AAUW is a top-rated 501(c)3 charitable organization whose mission is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.



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Dear Representatives,

My name is Dr. Rich Guggenheim,

I am the Colorado chapter leader of Gays Against Groomers. I am here today to **SUPPORT** HB24-1040. There is absolutely no question that sound policy is built on a foundation of relevant and reliable science and accurate data. When we are discussing protecting youth, and medical procedures that we know from science cause permanent and irreversible harm, we should ensure that policies to protect children from the harms of gender affirming are built on as strong of a foundation of science as possible, and uses the most accurate, reliable, and up to date data published.

Because this type of study is pioneering, it will be scrutinized and cited by others. If the science and data are bad, it will reflect poorly upon, and damage the public's trust in our state's institutions of government and the departments who have been charged with overseeing the health and safety of our children. Because this study's data will be used to create policy that will impact our children and their health and safety, we believe this bill should ensure that data is as high quality and accurate as possible. For these reasons, we propose that the following amendments to this bill:

- Since this data will be public record, ensure it is collected and the research is conducted in as transparent manner as possible. This will help to eliminate *perception* of bias and motive in the study.
- Ensure that the data and research are conducted in a manner that is consistent with IRB standards and peer reviewed. This will help ensure that there is no bias or motive to the study and data.
- Ensure that the data and survey is longitudinal in nature. Rather than a snapshot in time, this study should show verifiable trends and collect data for at least the ten prior years to the date of collection.
- Data collection should be ongoing to study future trends and inform changes to laws as needed. I.e, sunset reviews.
- Include in this study and data reports of transition regret, mental health trends to include positive and negative shifts, complications resulting from and medical side effects of gender affirming care at all stages, any detransition practices sought or engaged in, and any litigation against medical providers or insurance companies engaging in or providing any type of gender affirming care.
- Include and report resources, providers, and services available to detransition care, including physical and mental healthcare services, especially those who provide detransition health care to youth, as well as the availability in unavailability of insurance coverage for detransition healthcare.

By amending this bill, which Gays Against Groomers supports, we can ensure that this gender affirming care provider study paints a complete and accurate picture of the status of this practice in Colorado. This study will be looked at by others across the nation and around the world. Do not make haste to publish data and craft laws that will be scrutinized and reflect poorly upon our state. Let's not hastily work to create a study with clear bias in motive. These proposed amendments will help this body craft the best

possible laws based to protect youth that are built on the foundation of the most accurate, relevant, and reliable data available. Please amend this bill and vote **YES** on HB24-1040. Our children deserve the best protections and laws that are based on science.

House Health & Human Services

04/02/2024 Upon Adjournment

HB24-1040 Gender-Affirming Health-Care Provider Study

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
tanya regan Against themselves	HB24-1040, GENDER-AFFIRMING HEALTH-CARE PROVIDER STUDY Dear Members of the Health and Human Services Committee: As I read your proposed bill, to fund consultants to conduct a study on the status of gender-affirming health care in Colorado, especially in rural areas, I cannot think of any better way to completely waste taxpayer funding and I am a 1000% against this bill. To spend nearly a million dollars over the next three years to investigate and determine gender-affirming “health care” facilities, is merely the first step and establishing a taxpayer funded system to groom innocent children and making them dependent on the pharmaceutical industry for the rest of their lives. This bill moves our society down the path of hedonism, one which kills innocent humans (unborn fetuses) and then for those innocent children who enter a public school, destroy their God-given essence of male or females. This is evil. From the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH)’s own internal files, they acknowledge that, “its members know they are creating victims and NOT getting informed consent. Moreover, WPATH has misled the public and should not be considered a medical or scientific group – indeed and sadly our science establishment has lost its integrity and honesty – rather it has become an enabling arm of the Pharmaceutical Industry. I implore you to search your consciences and vote NO on this legislation. Thank you. Sincerely, Tanya S Regan, USAF, LT Col, Retired
Ellen Daehnick Against themselves	Regarding: HB 24-1040, Gender-Affirming Health-Care Provider Study

	<p>Thank you to the members of the House Health & Human Services Committee for allowing my testimony. My name is Ellen Daehnick, I live in Denver, CO, and I'm representing myself.</p> <p>I oppose HB 24-1040, Gender-Affirming Health-Care Provider Study, and I urge you to vote no on this bill.</p> <p>HB 24-1040 is not advocating a real study. The bill empanels a biased group to ensure predetermined conclusions: that Colorado needs more "gender-affirming care", particularly for youth. "Gender affirming care" includes the promotion of extreme interventions such as puberty blockers, sex trait modification through cross sex hormones, and irreversible surgeries as a remedy for mental distress, and these may represent the biggest medical scandal of our time. Despite no quality or long-term evidence, these radical interventions have been falsely presented not only as safe, but as lifesaving.</p> <p>Instead of improving the lives of young people experiencing gender-related distress, these unstudied interventions have created lifelong medical patients at high risk for permanent sexual dysfunction, and in some cases have resulted in sterilization. Long-term studies on adults post-surgery show an increased risk of suicide post transition, despite restrictive patient screening, while studies on children show that if left alone, most gender distress resolves after adolescence without medical intervention. In fact, medical interventions appear to cause feelings of distress to persist. Those on puberty blockers are all but guaranteed to continue to cross-sex hormones — a statistical anomaly that can't be chalked up to quality assessment prior to treatment when reports show that there's often no assessment at all before starting blockers.</p> <p>No child is born in the wrong body, and the belief that they can be is not supported by science. Please vote no on HB 24-1040, Gender-Affirming Health-Care Provider Study.</p> <p>Ellen Daehnick HD 4</p>
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