

Please support HB23-1261

Hello, My name is Quincey Williams with Young Invincibles. I use they/them/theirs pronouns. Thank you to the Education Committee for reading my testimony today. In 2017, I was the first of my generation in my family to graduate from high school. I graduated from Smoky Hill High School in Aurora, Colorado. Signing up for the selective service program was one of the many confusions I had to untangle as the first person in my family to go to a 4-year university. During my final years of high school, I was bombarded with more army recruitment messages than I was with university outreach. I knew early on that I wanted to take the route of going straight to higher education after high school.

It was discouraging to find out that because I was born a male, my future in Higher Education was inextricably linked with signing up for the Draft. First-generation students face enough barriers to completing college applications and financial aid forms. The last thing we need is for our educational opportunity to be contingent on registering with Selective Service. I ask again for your support in repealing this requirement and the means by which it is implemented, so as to improve access to higher education for those who need it most. Thank you again for your time and consideration, and please vote Yes on HB23-1261.