

February 14, 2023

To: Kansas House Education Committee  
Regarding: **Testimony in Opposition of HB 2376**

Chair Blex and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition to HB 2376.

I, Amanda L. Mogoi, APRN, am a primary care and hormone therapy provider in Wichita, Kansas. I am certified in family practice through the American Association of Nurse Practitioners and trained through the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH) to provide gender affirming care to transgender and gender diverse individuals. I am a lifelong citizen of Kansas, a taxpayer, and a small business owner. I am the co-owner of M-Care Healthcare, LLC where I currently provide care to approximately 1000 LGBT+ individuals who would be directly impacted by this bill. Today, I address you not just as a medical provider, but also as a hearing-impaired person, the wife of an immigrant, and the mother of brown children.

Before we discuss diversity, equity, and inclusion, we first must start by discussing privilege. I am privileged. Everyone sitting on this committee is privileged. Our privilege affords us the ability to not think about many of the important issues that face the communities that we do not identify with. And also, as elected officials and as responsible humans, we have to consider those that live lives that may be different from ours.

Let's talk about intersectionalities- skin color, race, religion, age, ability, gender, sexuality, and relationships are all parts of our being. Some of those things we have control of and many we do not. Each of us have intersectionalities that make up who we are. I identify as white, straight, cisgender, American, Christian woman and I use she/her pronouns. We know that these things play a huge role in socioeconomics, health outcomes, and the way that others treat us. These intersectionalities are important parts of our being that make up who we are. Many of us define ourselves by our career and our families.

I have mentioned many things that make me who I am throughout this testimony. One of the most important parts is that I am an advocate. I choose to fight for the lives and equality of those who do not have the privileges that I have, and I implore you to step into that role as well. Nondiscrimination ordinances protect all of us. They keep us safe from losing our homes or jobs due to the intersectionalities that make up who we are. The ability for individuals to define themselves and speak to their own lived experience is invaluable and I am thankful to all the individuals who haven't written to you, pouring out their hearts regarding their lived experiences. Please listen to them. Please see the value in their testimony and hear their plea to not lose the protections that have already been established.

Thank you,

Amanda Mogoi, MSN, APRN, FNP