Opponent Testimony of HB2238 For the Senate Education Committee March 6, 2023 Alexis Lankford Teacher

Chair Baumgardner and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide opponent written testimony on House Bill 2238.

I have been a Kansas resident for most of my life. I left for a few years to experience other places and recently I returned to my home state. Kansas is known for sticking up to injustice and persecution. This bill, however, does know those things. I am writing to oppose house bill 2238. This bill do nothing but harm people in this state.

We started by the summer as residents of Kansas saying that we believed in the constitutional right to healthcare with abortion. This similarly, is healthcare. We have no business trying to dictate what a doctor needs to do for their patients well-being. We have to trust those doctors to respect their patients needs.

Who won the society decided what gender expression was normal, and what wasn't. The only people who have an issue with this are people who are afraid of true self expression. Let these kids be who they want to be. They are not hurting anyone. And instead by passing laws like this, you would be directly hurting them. The suicide rate for transgender kids is already too high. I don't want to see it go any higher.

If you absolutely must, you could look at the regulations within the gender, affirming care after consulting with various organizations that actually care about these people. Because at the end of the day, they are people who deserve to live their lives.

Thank you for considering my testimony. I am strongly in opposition to this bill. I hope that Kansas can still be a state that I'm proud of with their support of inclusion and justice.