

STATE OF KANSAS  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE CAPITOL  
300 S.W. TENTH AVENUE, 174-W  
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612  
(785) 296-5593  
brandon.woodard@house.ks.gov



DISTRICT ADDRESS  
P.O. BOX 19271  
LENEXA, KS 66285  
(913) 335-0919  
woodardforkansas@gmail.com

**BRANDON WOODARD**  
108TH DISTRICT

**Opposition Testimony**  
**Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare**  
**Senate Bill 233**  
**February 14, 2023**

Chairperson Gossage, Vice-Chair Erickson, Ranking Member Pettey, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide **testimony in opposition to SB 233**: "Creating a civil cause of action against a physician who performs childhood gender reassignment service and requiring revocation of a physician's license who performs childhood gender reassignment service.

Gender-affirming care is a safe, effective, and necessary form of treatment for transgender youth. In its most used forms, gender-affirming care consists of access to mental health care, hormone treatments and puberty blockers, which allow transgender youth time to learn about themselves. Despite the claims of radical politicians who seek to attack this form of treatment and spread highly inflammatory rhetoric, the medical science tells us that all these forms of care are safe and reversible.

This bill unnecessarily inserts the government into personal healthcare decisions that should be made by transgender Kansans, their medical and behavioral health providers, and their families. **By criminalizing this form of care, bad-faith legislators are doing nothing but showing the public how they fundamentally don't understand how gender-affirming care works and endangering the lives of transgender youth in the process.**

Every single major medical association, including the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, specifically support gender-affirming care and oppose bills like SB 233, which seek to criminalize doctors for practicing the best medicine available to trans youth. **Gender-affirming care has been shown to greatly reduce instances of depression and suicidal thoughts among trans youth. To criminalize it would be an incredibly dangerous and short-sighted move on behalf of the legislature.**

For this Legislature to be dominated by a supermajority that claims to believe in limited government, stop shrinking government down to be just small enough to fit in doctors' offices, bathrooms, and bedrooms. **I ask you to vote NO on SB 233** and will stand for questions at the appropriate time. Thank you for your time.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brandon Woodard".

Rep. Brandon Woodard