

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 2023

EESW/EEF

EXPRESSING the opposition of the Mayor and the Council for the City of Cincinnati of Ohio to Ohio H.B. No. 68, a bill introduced by the Ohio General Assembly to prohibit physicians from knowingly performing gender affirming healthcare.

WHEREAS, H.B. No. 68, entitled the “Save Adolescents From Experimentation” Act or SAFE Act, is an attack on affirming mental and medical care for Transgender youth in Ohio; and

WHEREAS, H.B. No. 68 will enact penalties upon physicians and mental health care providers who engage in conduct and provide medical care that H.B. No. 68 prohibits; and

WHEREAS, according to national polling, more than half of Americans oppose laws that criminalize providing gender transition, gender affirming, or related medical care to minors; and

WHEREAS, 2023 has been a record year for anti-LGBTQ+ bills introduced in state legislatures with 63 of 493 of such laws having been signed into law; and

WHEREAS, banning gender-affirming care will hurt the transgender community in the state of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, criminalizing conduct related to providing resources to transgender youth can lead to higher rates of suicide and homelessness; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, the national transgender survey identified, that nearly one-third of respondents had experienced homelessness at some point in their lives; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, the Trevor Project identified that transgender and nonbinary youth were two to 2.5 times more likely to consider and attempt suicide; and

WHEREAS, H.B. No. 68 will endanger transgender, gender-diverse, and nonbinary (“TGNB”) youth across Ohio; and

WHEREAS, H.B. No. 68 follows in the footsteps of Ohio H.B. No. 454, which this Council also condemned, by trying to foster prejudice, discrimination, violence, and other forms of stigma against TGNB youth; and

WHEREAS, TGNB youth already face significant prejudice and are subject to having their personal lives and bodies being politicized, and HB. No. 68 will negatively impact their mental and physical health; and

WHEREAS, families across the country are forced to move from state to state to find proper healthcare for their children who are TGNB; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That the Mayor and this Council hereby express their opposition to and condemn proposed Ohio H.B. No. 68, a bill introduced in the Ohio General Assembly to prohibit gender affirming care for Ohio's transgender youth.

Section 2. That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council and a copy be provided to the office of Councilmember Meeka D. Owens.

Passed: _____, 2023

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk

Submitted by Councilmembers Meeka Owens, Reggie Harris, Mark Jeffreys, and Vice Mayor Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney