

February 15, 2023

Testimony to the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

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Bill #: SB 180, Women's Bill of Rights

Proponent, Opponent, Neutral: Opponent

Oral or Written Only Testimony: Written only

Dear Chair and members of the committee,

I am writing today to express my opposition to SB 180. I have strong concerns that our legislative body continues to focus on the myriad of ways to attack, belittle, and humiliate the LGBTQ+ community, particularly our transgender citizens, in Kansas. It's not enough that we have SB12, SB233, SB207, as well as HB2238, but now we have to bully a portion of our population under the guise of instituting a "bill of rights" for women?

How are bills like the ones mentioned above actually *helping* Kansans? Are they helping to feed our hungry children? Are they helping to house our houseless population? Are they helping people to find meaningful employment and a fulfilling existence? Are they assisting our senior community, or our wonderful veterans who have possibly actually fought for our rights as Americans?

Members of our LGBTQ+ community are often searching for acceptance and understanding. Statistics show that LGBTQ+ youth who live in a community that is accepting of LGBTQ+ people reported significantly lower rates of attempting suicide than those who do not. I would love to see our lawmakers working on legislation that helps Kansans to feel a part of community that embodies acceptance, understanding, and freedom for all our citizens. SB 180 works against that ideal, and I simply cannot fathom why it would be necessary.

I hope that you will act judiciously on this legislation and vote no on SB 180.

I thank the committee for your consideration of my position.

Jennifer Day

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