

Healthcare: Transgender Youth Related Healthcare

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Bills PROMO Opposes

- HB 33 (Pollock), HB 1128 (Coleman), SB 442 (Moon)

Healthcare Decision Making

- Patients and their health care providers, not politicians, should decide what medical care is in the best interest of a patient in accordance with current medical best practices.
- It can be hard to understand what it's like to have a transgender child, especially if you've never met someone who is transgender. Parents of transgender children, like most parents, simply want to do what is best for their child—and that includes working with doctors to ensure that their child has access to necessary and medically recommended care.

Facts about Healthcare for Transgender Youth

- These bills criminalize medical best practices for transgender youth; care that is backed by the American Academy of Pediatrics and other leading medical authorities.
- Transgender children, like any child, have the best chance to thrive when they are supported and can get the health care they need.
- Best practice medical care for transgender youth simply delays puberty until young people are old enough to make their own decisions about their lived gender. This bill aims to take away their choices and tries to prevent them from having the chance to live as the person they know they are inside.

Harming Missouri Doctors, Nurses, and Parents

These bills would criminalize healthcare:

- The government would pull the licenses of trusted medical care professionals, charging them with abuse
- Doctors would be forced to violate existing standards—standards that are endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics
- This proposal also would throw parents in jail simply for trying to do what's best for their child. This bill threatens parents with prosecution if they help their child receive best practice medical care recommended by the child's doctor and supported by organizations like the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Medical Association.

Putting Transgender Youth At Risk

- This legislation would put the lives and well-being of transgender youth at risk.
- Denying best practice healthcare and support to transgender youth can be life-threatening. It has been shown to contribute to depression, social isolation, self-hatred, and risk of self-harm and suicidal behavior.
- Research shows that transgender youth whose families support their gender identity have a 52% decrease in suicidal thoughts, a 48% decrease in suicide attempts, and significant increases in self-esteem and physical and mental health.

PROMO is Missouri's statewide organization advocating for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBTQ) equality through legislative action, electoral politics, grassroots organizing, and community education.

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