

CONSENT CALENDAR

February 15, 2022

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Committee on Children and Family Law to which was referred HB 1651-FN,

AN ACT adding sexual reassignment to the definition of child abuse. Having considered the same, report the same with the following resolution: **RESOLVED**, that it is **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**.

Rep. Kimberly Rice

FOR THE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	Children and Family Law
Bill Number:	HB 1651-FN
Title:	adding sexual reassignment to the definition of child abuse.
Date:	February 15, 2022
Consent Calendar:	CONSENT
Recommendation:	INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The committee believes this is a decision between the parents, child, doctor and mental health professionals. The legislature should not be making already difficult and trying times in a child's life even more difficult.

Vote 8-0.

Rep. Kimberly Rice
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

CONSENT CALENDAR

Children and Family Law

HB 1651-FN, adding sexual reassignment to the definition of child abuse. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Kimberly Rice for Children and Family Law. The committee believes this is a decision between the parents, child, doctor and mental health professionals. The legislature should not be making already difficult and trying times in a child's life even more difficult. **Vote 8-0.**

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 1651-FN

BILL TITLE: adding sexual reassignment to the definition of child abuse.

DATE: February 15, 2022

LOB ROOM: 206-208

MOTIONS: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Moved by Rep. DeSimone

Seconded by Rep. Long

Vote: 8-0

CONSENT CALENDAR: YES

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Peter Petrigno, Clerk



2022 SESSION

Children and Family Law

Bill #: HB 1651 - FN Motion: ITL AM #: _____ Exec Session Date: 2/15/22

<u>Members</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>NV</u>
Rice, Kimberly A. Chairman	✓		
DeSimone, Debra L. Vice Chairman	✓		
Yokela, Josh S.			✓
Nelson, Jodi	✓		
Belanger, Cody M.			✓
Cross, Kenna E.			✓
Litchfield, Melissa A.			✓
Smith, Denise M.			
Long, Patrick T.	✓		
Alicea, Caroletta C. Clerk	✓		
Grossman, Gaby M.	✓		
Levesque, Cassandra N.	✓		
Wazir, Safiya			✓
Petrigno, Peter	✓		
Altschiller, Debra			✓
TOTAL VOTE:	8	0	6

Consent Calendar

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 1651-FN

BILL TITLE: adding sexual reassignment to the definition of child abuse.

DATE: February 15, 2022

LOB ROOM: 206-208 **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 1:15pm

Time Adjourned:

Committee Members: Reps. Rice, DeSimone, Petrigno, Yokela, J. Nelson, Belanger, Cross, Litchfield, D. Smith, Long, Grossman, Levesque, Wazir, Altschiller and Alicea

Bill Sponsors:
Rep. Testerman

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

Rep. Dave Testerman

- Spoke in support of his bill, adding sexual reassignment to the definition of child abuse

Stephen Scarr

- Spoke in support, that young individuals are not mature enough to make sexual reassignment decisions and may have regrets in the future

Chris Erchull - Attorney with GLBTQ

- Noted that this bill is identical to HB 68 and in violation of the House rules, 36e which prohibits the filing of a similar bill.

***Holly Stevens**, from NAMI - NH

- In opposition of bill
- Spoke about the high risk for depression and suicide for trans people

***Emma Sevigny**, from New Futures

- In Opposition
- Expressing far-reaching and devastating consequences to children and families

Jennifer Smith, MD

- In opposition
- Noted that she is trans gender. "Regrets" are only due to lack of social acceptance.
- Notes that HB 68 wasn't voted on last year

Anna "Andrew" Macpherson, Hight School student

- Expressed personal concerns about not being able to transition

Dave Macpherson, father of "Andrew"

- In support sighting "love" not "abuse" in supporting their children in transition

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Melissa Litchfield

House Remote Testify

Children and Family Law Committee Testify List for Bill HB1651 on 2022-02-15

Support: 368 Oppose: 15 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 0

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<u>Name</u>	<u>City, State</u> <u>Email Address</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Testifying</u>	<u>Non-Germane</u>	<u>Signed Up</u>
Kasten, Sayles	Dover, NH sayles@nhyouthmovement.org	A Lobbyist	New Hampshire Youth Movement	Oppose	No	No	2/11/2022 4:22 PM
Murray, Alissandra	Manchester, NH murrayalissandra@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/11/2022 4:23 PM
Abramson, Quincy	Dover, NH quincyleah@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/11/2022 4:23 PM
Kremer, Ben	Newmarket, NH bckremer1@sbcglobal.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/11/2022 4:23 PM
Neubieser, JF Carter	Manchester, NH carterneubieser@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/11/2022 4:23 PM
Sinclair-Wingate, Griffin	Rollinsford, NH griffinsw94@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/11/2022 4:23 PM
Farley, Jude	Derry, NH judefarley123@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/11/2022 4:23 PM
Ford, Eva	Dover, NH evacamilleford@gmail.com	A Lobbyist	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/11/2022 4:24 PM
Alberga, Jacob	Durham, NH jacalb56@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/11/2022 4:24 PM
Lane, Connie	Concord, NH connie.lane@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Merrimack District 12	Oppose	No	No	2/11/2022 5:36 PM
Anastasia, Patricia	Londonderry, NH patti.anastasia@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/11/2022 5:43 PM
Hamer, Heidi	Manchester, NH heidi.hamer@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/11/2022 6:14 PM
Cahill, Michael	Newmarket, NH michael.cahill@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/12/2022 6:25 AM

Weston, Joyce	Plymouth, NH jweston14@roadrunner.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/12/2022 7:30 AM
Duncan, Stan	Newton, NH standuncan@post.harvard.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/12/2022 8:20 AM
Eisner, Mary	Derry, NH nhdem@msn.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/12/2022 8:20 AM
Till, Mary	Derry, NH maryforderry@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/12/2022 9:25 AM
Wood, Jacqueline	Auburn, NH jackie_wood47@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/12/2022 10:26 AM
kuenning, keith	Bow, NH kueningk@waypointnh.org	A Lobbyist	Waypoint	Oppose	No	No	2/12/2022 8:20 PM
Rhoades, Chuck	Dover, NH chuckrhoades@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/12/2022 8:47 PM
Lucas, Janet	Campton, NH janluca1953@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 8:23 AM
Richards, John	Holderness, NH salmon246@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 9:00 AM
Andres, Crystal	Concord, NH crystalmburch@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 10:56 AM
Robbins, Annie	Sanbornville, NH anniemrobbins@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 11:20 AM
Gilman, Selectwoman Julie	Exeter, NH Jgilman@exeternh.gov	An Elected Official	Town of Exeter	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 1:52 PM
Mack, Connor	Dover, NH Cmack.nhym@gmail.com	A Lobbyist	New Hampshire Youth Movement	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 3:23 PM
Asa, Stella	Hanover, NH stellaasa79@gmail.com	A Lobbyist	New Hampshire Youth movement	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 3:23 PM
Horowitz, Tzippy	Newmarket, NH tzippynhym@gmail.com	A Lobbyist	New Hampshire Youth Movement	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 3:24 PM
Blumenthal, Jessica	Portsmouth, NH jessbnyhm@gmail.com	A Lobbyist	New Hampshire Youth Movement	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 3:24 PM
Chase, Susan	ANDOVER, NH SRFCHASE@GMAIL.COM	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 3:55 PM
Perez, Erika	Manchester, NH eyzerep@gmail.com	A Lobbyist	NH Youth Movement	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 3:56 PM

Bates, David	Warner, NH dbates3@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 4:20 PM
Nardino, Marie	Andover, NH mdnardino@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 4:44 PM
Hunnewell, Richard	Holderness, NH hunnewell.richard@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 4:56 PM
Hunnewell, Anne	Holderness, NH ahunne@roadrunner.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 4:56 PM
Telerski, Laura	Nashua, NH Laura.Telerski@Leg.State.NH.US	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 5:26 PM
Peternel, Catherine	Wolfeboro, NH katypeternel@pm.me	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/13/2022 5:41 PM
Zirkle, Holly	Nottingham, NH gnomenclaturefun@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 6:12 PM
O'Brien, Lily	Thornton, NH lzobrien65@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 6:18 PM
King, Jordan	Milford, NH Jordan.king@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 6:21 PM
Gregory-Davis, Rev. John	Meriden, NH john@meridenucc.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 7:03 PM
Dewey, Karen	NEWPORT, NH pkdewey@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 7:45 PM
Wells, Lee	Andover, NH Leewells.locustfarm@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 8:56 PM
Wells, Ken	Andover, NH kenwells3@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 8:57 PM
Kirby, Pamela	Derry, NH pkirby1@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 8:59 PM
Weber, Jill	Mont Vernon, NH jill@frajilfarms.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 9:22 PM
Almy, Susan	Lebanon, NH Susan.almy@comcast.net	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 9:25 PM
Zaenglein, Barbara	AMHERST, NH bzaenglein@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 9:36 PM
Zaenglein, Eric	Amherst, NH henley11@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 9:49 PM

Dickler, Jeffrey	Rindge, NH gsgstriker@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 9:57 PM
Stevens, Representative Deb	Nashua, NH debstevens4ward7@gmail.com	An Elected Official	My 10K constituents	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 9:59 PM
Hamblet, Joan	Portsmouth, NH jhamblet4@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 10:05 PM
Moore, Janet	Andover, NH Jmpcilley@tds.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 10:10 PM
Dontonville, Roger	Enfield, NH rdontonville@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 10:27 PM
Kinney, Rev. Dr. Gail	Canaan, NH gailhrdi@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/13/2022 10:40 PM
Grassie, Chuck	Rochester, NH chuck.grassie@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Strafford 11	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 12:05 AM
Hackmann, Kent	Andover, NH hackmann@uidaho.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 3:45 AM
Tucker, Katherine	Wilmot, NH katherine.s.tucker@valley.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 5:58 AM
Bushueff, Catherine	Sunapee, NH agawamdesigns@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 7:11 AM
Sellarole, Jana	Walpole, NH jgsellarole@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 7:21 AM
Radzelovage, William	Andover, NH radbill@earthlink.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:05 AM
Johnson, Lynne	Wilmot, NH tropicats@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:10 AM
Brennan, Nancy	Weare, NH burningnan14@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:11 AM
Smith, Sara	Pembroke, NH sara.rose.ssmith@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:33 AM
Straiton, Marie	Pembroke, NH m.straiton@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:51 AM
Phillips, Betsey	Bethlehem, NH bphil36@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:01 AM
Raspiller, Cindy	Mont Vernon, NH raspicl@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:04 AM

Platt, Elizabeth-Anne	CONCORD, NH lizanneplatt09@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:13 AM
Geary, Fiona	Northwood, NH fionamaegeary@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:15 AM
Jakubowski, Deborah	Loudon, NH Dendeb146@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:17 AM
Jakubowski, Dennis	LOUDON, NH dendeb146@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:18 AM
Brown, Howard	Mont Vernon, NH hobro39@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:19 AM
Wilke, Mary	CONCORD, NH wilke.mary@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:21 AM
Robinson, Steven	Northwood, NH Nikkiandme@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/14/2022 9:22 AM
Robinson, Karen	Northwood, NH Bdabng12@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/14/2022 9:26 AM
Dontonville, Anne	Enfield, NH Ardontonville@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:39 AM
Raymond, Susan	Tamworth, NH susanjaneraymond@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:46 AM
Lynch, Chrisinda	Concord, NH cmmelynych@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:53 AM
Nelson, Deborah	Hanover, NH dbaconnelson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:59 AM
Richardson, Daniel	Nashua, NH daniel6_22@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/14/2022 10:01 AM
Devore, Gary	Pembroke, NH torin_asheron@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 10:15 AM
Jones, Andrew	Pembroke, NH arj11718@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 10:15 AM
Corell, Elizabeth	Concord, NH Elizabeth.j.corell@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 10:23 AM
Podlipny, Ann	Chester, NH apodlipny57@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 10:26 AM
Freeman, Barbara	Andover, NH donavonfreeman@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 10:37 AM

Gordon, Margaret	Weare, NH Megordon98@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 10:49 AM
Goggans, Ron	campton, NH rongoggans@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 11:01 AM
Pinto, Josie	Dover, NH pinto.josie@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 11:09 AM
smith, jennifer	Pembroke, NH jaycmd7699@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 11:20 AM
Applewhite, Jordan	Sugar Hill, NH jordan.applewhite@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 11:24 AM
Gordon, Laurie	Weare, NH lmgord23@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 11:28 AM
Brown, Jean	HANOVER, NH jean.e.brown1@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 11:34 AM
Koch, Laurie	Concord, NH kochlj@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 11:40 AM
Jones, Madeline	Manchester, NH Madeline.elizabeth.jones@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 11:41 AM
Macpherson, Anna	hooksett, NH thattranscryptid@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 11:45 AM
Parrish, Andrew	Holderness, NH Andrewparrish1065@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 11:50 AM
Bergevin, Leslie	Loudon, NH Leslie.bergevin@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 11:53 AM
Federico, Peter	Barrington, NH pfederico10@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 11:59 AM
Egan, Madison	Manchester, NH madisonegan1213@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 12:09 PM
Bowles, Margaret	Lyme, NH mcb2885@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 12:09 PM
Trojan, Abby	Lee, NH abbytrojan@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 12:12 PM
Lewis, Dresden	Greenland, NH Nommmunism@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 12:15 PM
Montminy, Sandra	Portsmouth, NH S-l-Robinson@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 12:18 PM

Dickler, Deneen	Rindge, NH dkd1905@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 12:19 PM
Manning, Holly	MILTON, NH hsrobertson86@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 12:23 PM
Marshall, James	Derry, NH jim_marshall2268@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 12:31 PM
Renkert, Elexa	Plymouth, NH ekrenkert@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 12:32 PM
Cardona, Carlos	Laconia, NH ccardona@jcsescapeaway.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 12:32 PM
Edwards, Megan	Londonderry, NH megan.emma@icloud.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 12:32 PM
noel, henry	Berlin, NH hw418noel@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 12:33 PM
Morris, Heather	Milford, NH Heathermorris454@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 12:43 PM
Chen, Melinda	Bedford, NH maestrachen@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 12:52 PM
hinnov, seven	exeter, NH seven.hinnov.666@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 12:56 PM
Brown, Morgan	Littleton, NH mkb1242@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 12:56 PM
Johnson, Maddoc	Portsmouth, NH sepojohnson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 12:58 PM
Hayward, Marcia	Laconia, NH mjhayward131@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 1:00 PM
Barkworth, Helen	EAST HAMPSTEAD, NH helen.barkworth@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 1:01 PM
Bouchard, Donald	MANCHESTER, NH donaldjbouchard@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 1:02 PM
Plante, Mia	North Conway, NH miajplante@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 1:03 PM
Longabaugh, Aldebran	Alton Bay, NH aldebranlongabaugh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 1:05 PM
Ring, Jessica	Derry, NH ringjc@comcast.net	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 1:06 PM

Rettew, Annie	Concord, NH abrettew@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 1:06 PM
Jackson, Nicholas	Nashua, NH Njackson@skiltair.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 1:08 PM
Dennehy, Carys	Hampstead, NH carysdennehy@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 1:08 PM
Rosala, Kasey	Dover, NH kaseyrosala@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 1:12 PM
Terravechia, Aimee	Alton, NH, NH aimeeterra@LIVE.COM	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 1:17 PM
Minton, Faith	Warner, NH minton.faith@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 1:19 PM
Whitaker, Mitchell	Merrimack, NH Whitakermitchell00@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 1:32 PM
Tedcastle, Jennifer	Barnstead, NH Jtedcastle@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 1:36 PM
Warren, Joan	Warner, NH joanbcwarren@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 1:39 PM
Miscioscia, Nina	Cohasset, MA ninamariee66@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 1:40 PM
Hall, Julia	Durham, NH jugracehall@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 1:44 PM
Plante, Amy	Dover, NH amyplante3@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 1:45 PM
Romero, Dena	Hanover, NH dena.romero@myfairpoint.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 1:51 PM
López Burlingame, Terry	Gilmanton Iron Works, NH mexicananh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 1:55 PM
Pardoe, Megan	Nashua, NH Pinkdragon13@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 2:04 PM
Cahill, Kathy	Concord, NH kathyhigginscahill@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 2:04 PM
Pardoe, Mackenzie	Nashua, NH pardoem97@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 2:07 PM
Campbell, Leonard	Meredith, NH Lsoup03@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 2:08 PM

Estabrook, Lorrinda	Concord, NH bgrl82@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 2:13 PM
Carrier, Eric	Lancaster, NH bige9920@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 2:14 PM
Lenz, James	Plainfield, NH jelenz@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 2:31 PM
Trostorff, Stephen	Warner, NH spt360@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 2:32 PM
Jarry, Alex	Merrimack, NH laxtk88@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 2:32 PM
Orkin, Susan	Grantham, NH susanorkin@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 2:34 PM
D, Nicole	Keene, NH thedreamergirl16@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 2:34 PM
Dube, Evelyn	Nashua, NH ecdgirl15@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 2:36 PM
McKim, Marianna	Plainfield, NH marianna.mckim@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 2:38 PM
Trostorff, Pamela	Warner, NH pdt360@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 2:46 PM
Murray, Kate	New Castle, NH dr.karma2000@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 2:49 PM
Aronson, Laura	Manchester, NH laura@mlans.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 2:54 PM
Cousineau, Edward	Cornish, NH cousineaued@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 2:56 PM
Finedore, Hilary	Concord, NH Finchilary@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 2:59 PM
Ginn, Jules	portsmouth, NH ginnjulien@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 3:02 PM
Hargy, Marcus	Wolfeboro, NH marcushargy@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 3:09 PM
Stringfellow, Karla	Dallas, TX karla.warla@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 3:17 PM
LOUGHLIN, EMILY	Wilton, NH missemilymclean@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 3:19 PM

Feldman, Harvey	Concord, NH harveyfeldmanlcmhc@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 3:24 PM
Keen, Andrea	Plainfield, NH teach@buenokeen.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 3:26 PM
O'Neill, Moira	Concord, NH Moira.K.ONeill@ChildAdvocate.nh.gov	State Agency Staff	Office of the Child Advocate	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 3:29 PM
Mikkonen, Molly	Greenland, NH mmikkonen2022@sau52.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 3:32 PM
Lawrence, Emily	Derry, NH Emilyluna1210@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 3:34 PM
Hargy, Sandy	Wolfeboro, NH pingohargy@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 3:40 PM
Gutierrez, Leo	Milford, NH florenzgutierrezpol@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 3:40 PM
Knytych, Kaylee	Campton, NH Kaylee.therese88@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 3:49 PM
Torpey, Jeanne	Concord, NH jtorp51@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 3:51 PM
Hichborn, Ashley	Exeter, NH ashley.hichborn@ppnne.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 3:52 PM
Mandell, Jacob	Manchester, NH jacobmandell@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 3:54 PM
Smith, Katherine	Manchester, NH katherineltaft@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 3:58 PM
Heath, Rev. Heidi	Exeter, NH revhch@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:09 PM
Daniels, Nikki	Boscawen, NH N.daniels.963@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:13 PM
Martin, Patricia A	Rindge, NH pmartin2894@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:16 PM
O'Brien, Clare	Henniker, NH cynthia.mousseau@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:16 PM
Merlone, Lynn	Rindge, NH prulone@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:16 PM
Fogarty, Sean	Exeter, NH seanf186@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:18 PM

Kallinich, Kayla	Lynn, NH Kaylakall47@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:18 PM
Carpenter, Shane	Portsmouth, NH S.carpenter@protonmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:19 PM
George, Kristyn	Akron, OH Kbgeorgehenderson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:20 PM
Ross, Brittany	New London, NH Beaside603@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:21 PM
Hargy, Jay	Wolfeboro, NH Jayhargy@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:23 PM
Oxenham, Evan	Plainfield, NH evan.oxenham@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:23 PM
Burns, Margo	Manchester, NH Margoburns@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:26 PM
Smith, Evelyn	Dover, NH evelynnhym@gmail.com	A Lobbyist	NH Youth Movement Project	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:27 PM
Thompson, Kristen	Keene, NH kristenathompson@tutanota.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:28 PM
Grant, Alex	Hanover, NH AlexV348@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:29 PM
Doherty, David	Pembroke, NH ddoherty0845@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:30 PM
Maddocks, William	Amherst, NH wmaddocks@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:37 PM
Bigford, Trinity	Bradford, NH Trinity.bigford@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:38 PM
Medeiros, Daniel	Keene, NH medeirosdanielp@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:39 PM
Hershey, Jane	Rindge, NH janelhershey@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:40 PM
Hanson, Jacqueline	Belmont, NH JackieHanson26@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:41 PM
Keyes, Christine	Wilmot, NH Christinekeyes@live.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:41 PM
Guthrie, Grace	Keene, NH ggutthrie794@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:43 PM

DeHut, Sandra	Manchester, NH sandydehut1@icloud.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:51 PM
Kenney, David	Manchester, NH momothebug1974@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:52 PM
Foss, Kristine	Bradford, NH skfoss@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:54 PM
Silvia, Jennifer	Bradford, NH Jennifersilvia1@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 4:54 PM
Ross, Catherine	New london, NH Kitrossnh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 5:00 PM
Guthrie, Sarah	Keene, NH sguthrie@ne.rr.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 5:07 PM
Wright, Kathy	Plainfield, NH Kathywright@myfairpoint.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 5:08 PM
Demers, Haley	Portsmouth, NH hmdemers@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 5:08 PM
Burns, Alyssa	Nashua, NH burnsa0928@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 5:08 PM
Thomas, Anne	Rindge, NH annekerosie@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 5:15 PM
Ferber, Claudia	Gilmanton, NH goodwife731@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 5:19 PM
Peltier, Timothy	Manchester, NH Tpeltier97@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 5:25 PM
Vargas, Heidi	Nashua, NH Heidivargas14@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/14/2022 5:27 PM
Arnold, Peter	Henniker, NH arnoldpe0@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 5:29 PM
Minuti, Darren	Durham, NH dminuti4@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 5:38 PM
DiFilippo, Courtney	Concord, NH Ctsquare52@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 5:39 PM
Gauthier, Olly	Tuftonboro, NH Andromeda.likes.toads@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	Yes	2/14/2022 5:40 PM
Masella, Gianna	Manchester, NH Giannamasella@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 5:40 PM

Vazzano, Stephanie	Concord, NH strawberrywish@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 5:41 PM
Mattlage, Linda	Concord, NH l.mattlage@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 5:44 PM
Freebourn, Yvonne	Manchester, NH Yvonnefreebourn@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 5:58 PM
Gaudet, Cheri	Dover, NH cheri@cherigaudet.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 6:08 PM
Cahill-Yeaton, Miriam	Epsom, NH nmyeaton.mims@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 6:08 PM
Blackmer, Oliver	Peterborough, NH oblackmer@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 6:09 PM
Chaffee, Emma	Newmarket, NH Emma.f.chaffee@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 6:09 PM
Nichols, Jessica	Gilmanton, NH jennika3@mac.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 6:10 PM
Lamotte, Elise	Nashua, NH Epaigelamotte@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 6:11 PM
Lamotte, Jeremy	Nashua, NH Jeremylamotte2014@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 6:15 PM
LaFave, Christopher	Concord, NH only1chris@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 6:30 PM
Goudin, Mallory	Newmarket, NH mallorygoudin@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 6:34 PM
Laker-Phelps, Gail	Chichester, NH lpsart@tds.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 6:35 PM
Ruef, Anna	WEARE, NH anna_ruef@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 6:38 PM
Rosati, Gerald	Merrimack, NH numbers.sets.0g@icloud.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 6:39 PM
Wheeler, Megan	Jaffrey, NH Mpwheeler05@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 6:43 PM
Call, Jennifer	Haverhill, NH jlpcarr@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 6:45 PM
Lewis, Ryan	Merrimack, NH gundambo195@netzero.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 6:47 PM

Hill, Conor	Ashuelot, NH conorhillnh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 6:51 PM
Krohn, Joan	Manchester, NH joanniekrohn@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 6:52 PM
McHugh, Kelsey	Manchester, NH mchughkelseyj@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 6:55 PM
Pike, Jordan	Conway, NH jopike15@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 6:55 PM
Pike, Ariana	Conway, NH arianaiillustration@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 6:55 PM
Ramos-Glew, Victoria	Plainfield, NH vramosglew@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 7:00 PM
Nemeth, Linnea	Dover, NH Linnea4dover@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 7:08 PM
Hill, Amy	Ashuelot, NH catdenhill@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 7:10 PM
Vuolo, Stephanie	Alton, NH Stephanie_vuolo@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 7:12 PM
Blanchard, Sandra	Loudon, NH sandyblanchard3@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 7:14 PM
Gulla, Carol	NEWMARKET, NH crgulla@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 7:21 PM
Boucher, Erin	Manchester, NH eeduffy19@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 7:21 PM
Boucher, Brett	Manchester, NH Bmboucher93@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 7:22 PM
Abernathy, Millie	Hampton Falls, NH millieabernathy@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 7:22 PM
Considine, Ryan	Billerica, MA carentilwin@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 7:28 PM
Abraham, Jennifer	Concord, NH jennalph@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 7:35 PM
Johnson, Teresa	Portsmouth, NH teresa@drteresajohnson.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 7:41 PM
Ohr, Beth	Stratham, NH bethellisohr@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 7:45 PM

Poole, Melissa	Concord, NH Inclassnow@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 7:51 PM
Gordon, Valerie	Manchester, NH zta.vlg@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 7:52 PM
Stevens, Elizabeth	New London, NH er.stevens@verizon.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 7:53 PM
Farney, Dylan	Manchester, NH dylanjfarney@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 7:55 PM
Mackenzie, Eleanor	Portsmouth, NH ecimackenzie@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 7:56 PM
Emberley, Owen	Concord, NH oemberley@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 7:57 PM
Dixon, Hope	Northfield, NH hdixon86@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:02 PM
Mann, Matthew	Northfield, NH Matt-mann123@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:03 PM
Moses, Gena Cohen	Concord, NH genacohenm@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:06 PM
No velli, Ph.D., Donna	Portsmouth, NH dnovelliphd@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:11 PM
Hollub, Rylee	Manchester, NH rylee.hollub@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:18 PM
Merrill, Kai	Candia, NH lupaluna2004@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:18 PM
Castro Andrade, Angelica	Merrimack, NH payten1516@aim.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:19 PM
Pellowe, Emily	Manchester, NH epellowe23@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:19 PM
Reed, Barbara	North Swanzey, NH BDRreed74@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:19 PM
Dayton, Debra	Nashua, NH twoshinks@icloud.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:19 PM
Sandler, Erin	Concord, NH ersandleremberley@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:24 PM
Koch, Helmut	Concord, NH helmut.koch.2001@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:27 PM

St Jean, Brittany	Londonderry, NH Contact@brittanystjean.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:28 PM
Ohr, Brady	Stratham, NH BradyOhr@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:33 PM
Schubert, Jo	Plainfield, NH jodyschubert0@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:33 PM
Griffith, Dr. Christopher	Newfields, NH dr.chrisgriffith@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:34 PM
Mack, TylerAnn	Contoocook, NH Tylerannmack@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:35 PM
Walker, Jason	Manchester, NH jgw2435@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:35 PM
Hession, Caitlin	Berlin, NH chession97@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:41 PM
Stephen, Samantha	Lebanon, NH havesunshine@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:43 PM
Mason, Peter	Lebanon, NH petermason68@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:46 PM
Wallace, Melissa	Concord, NH wallace_melissa@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:46 PM
Hinebauch, Mel	Concord, NH melhinebauch@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:48 PM
See, Alvin	Loudon, NH absee@4liberty.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/14/2022 8:54 PM
McCown, Jordan	Manchester, NH jordansmccown@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:57 PM
Pinet, Cameron	Manchester, NH cameronjpinet@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 8:58 PM
Murphy, Jacob	Hollis, NH jake.murphy99@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:01 PM
Hagan, Micheline	Barrington, NH Micheline.hagan@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:02 PM
Waltz, Rebecca	Stratham, NH Rebecca.ettlinger@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:03 PM
Reid, Lucinda	Chichester, NH cindy_reid27@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:08 PM

Kuemmerle, Nancy	Enfield, NH nkuemmerle@une.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:11 PM
Beaulieu, Rebecca	Dover, NH Rebeccaeb9495@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:18 PM
Hayes, Rebecca	Keene, NH rebecca.u.hayes@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:19 PM
Harding, Laurie	Lebanon, NH lharding0625@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:21 PM
Hess, Elizabeth	RANDOLPH, NH betsyhess@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:24 PM
Richman, Susan	Durham, NH susan7richman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:27 PM
Cleary, Alexis	Dover, NH alexisrjcleary@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:29 PM
Pierog, Jake	Chester, NH pierogjake@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:33 PM
McLaughlin, Cameron	Boscawen, NH cammie22801@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:38 PM
Hallock, Linda	Cornish, NH LINDASH@MAIL.COM	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:39 PM
Colby, Alexandra	Warner, NH Afcoby413@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:39 PM
Devanney, Patricia	Moultonborough, NH devanney@roadrunner.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:42 PM
Marrocco, Elizabeth	Londonderry, NH bebarr@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:44 PM
Marrocco, Robert	Londonderry, NH Rob.hvac@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:44 PM
Bartlett, Rep Christy	Concord, NH christydbartlett@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Merrimack County 19	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:46 PM
Pawley, Katherine	Bedford, NH kbpawley@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:46 PM
Leonard, Jessica	Londonderry, NH Jes@theleonardgroup.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:46 PM
Pepper, Kassandra	Derry, NH kassiefreyja@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:47 PM

Estey, Meghan	Jaffrey, NH Mestey@mtnwellness.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:49 PM
Burch, Jessica	Manchester, NH Jessicagetsemail@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:50 PM
Dresser, Sarah	Hanover, NH dresser.sarah@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:56 PM
Malmberg, Jane	Walpole, NH jamalmberg033@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 9:59 PM
Jordon, Jo	Dover, NH Handy_Aunt_Jo@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 10:06 PM
Monteil, Renee	Keene, NH reneemonteil@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 10:12 PM
Robb, Martha	Sunapee, NH robbmd@icloud.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 10:14 PM
Blouin, Michael	Manchester, NH F.mblouin@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 10:14 PM
Owens, Elliot	Penacook, NH Elliotowens1980@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 10:15 PM
Heckman-McKenna, Hannah	Concord, NH Sekhmet611@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 10:21 PM
Marinoff, Katherine	Dover, NH krmarinoff@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 10:22 PM
Dickerson, Alayna	Londonderry, NH alaynad@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 10:31 PM
Morais, Jacinta	Manchester, NH Jacinta.k.morais@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 10:36 PM
Silk, John	Dover, NH jsilk999@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 10:46 PM
Chase, Tiana	Maynard, MA chasetiana1984@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 10:47 PM
Edwards, Caroline	Londonderry, NH carolinedwards@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 10:47 PM
Linehan, Meg	Manchester, NH meganelinehan@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 10:49 PM
Lariviere, Kendal	Dover, NH kmlariviere@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 10:51 PM

Istel, Claudia	Acworth, NH cistel79@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 10:55 PM
Foss, Christina	Strafford, NH christinaheckman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 11:11 PM
Knight, Lauren	HUDSON, NH lknight918@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 11:30 PM
Garretson, Marisa	Dover, NH marisagarretson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/14/2022 11:42 PM
Smith, Lesley	Wakefield, NH Troandrensmama13@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 12:12 AM
Murray, Matthew	Merrimack, NH Matthew.Murray@natca.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 12:12 AM
Warner, Deborah	Littleton, NH warner@330608.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/15/2022 12:19 AM
Greenlaw, Sean	Nashua, NH Srg_03@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 1:53 AM
Price, James	Clinton Township, MI olddetroit2.0@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 1:58 AM
Bruce, Samuel	Concord, NH sbruceiv@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 5:34 AM
Ellermann, Maureen	Concord, NH ellermannf@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 6:35 AM
Lewis, Elizabeth	Nashua, NH ecop.lewis@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 6:35 AM
Hatch, sally	Concord, NH SALLYHATCH@COMCAST.COM	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 6:39 AM
Pinski, Allison	Bow, NH allison.pinski@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 6:44 AM
Fountain, Cathleen	Dalton, NH cathleenfountain56@msn.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 6:44 AM
Feraco, Katrina	Keene, NH katrina.feraco@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 6:52 AM
Chylinski, Teresa	Londonderry, NH t_chylinski@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 7:00 AM
Richard, Peter	Londonderry, NH petrich@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 7:01 AM

Miers, Erin	Manchester, NH drmiers@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 7:13 AM
Saunderson, George	Loudon, NH saunderson.george@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 7:15 AM
Hagala, Lexi	Manchester, NH lexi.hagala@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/15/2022 7:21 AM
Borgal, Brittany	Barrington, NH classifiedcolors@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 7:30 AM
Petty, Brent	NASHUA, NH brent.petty@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 7:32 AM
Porter, Hunter	Nashua, NH porterhunter2005@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	New Hampshire High School Democrats	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 7:38 AM
Rice, Timeya	Manchester, NH timeyak@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 7:39 AM
Cawley, David	Concord, NH dcawley7@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 7:49 AM
colgate, emily	Derry, NH colgateem@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 7:54 AM
Johnstone, Hazel	Warner, NH hazelejohnstone@gmal.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 7:55 AM
Pullen, Susan	Plainfield, NH Spullen@tds.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:03 AM
Spinney, Collin	Thornton, NH c.spinney93@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:07 AM
perencevich, ruth	concord, NH rperence@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:09 AM
Ingram, April	Warner, NH aandk@tds.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:12 AM
Buckley, Dr. Robin	Rye, NH drrobin@insightsgroup.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:15 AM
Robb, John	Sunapee, NH robbyj@icloud.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:17 AM
Steel, Sandy	PLAINFIELD, NH selizabethsteel@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:19 AM
FRIEDRICH, ED	Loudon, NH erfriedrich@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:25 AM

Campbell, Karen	Epsom, NH klynncampbell50@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:26 AM
Barry, Coleen	Hampton, NH drcoleenbarry@hushmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:27 AM
stonebanks, sandra	concord, NH sandrastonebanks@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:27 AM
Puttgen, Julie	LEBANON, NH mustaphaputtgen@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:29 AM
Fraysse, Michael	Epsom, NH mikefraysse@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Michael Fraysse	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:31 AM
Baker, Sophie	Durham, NH sb1276@wildcats.unh.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:45 AM
Perry, Hailey	Newport, NH haileyperry10@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:47 AM
Gagnon, Gregory	Londonderry, NH tif.blessing.gagnon@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:57 AM
Gagnon, Tiffany	Londonderry, NH tif.blessing.gagnon@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:57 AM
LICSW INC., Kimberly	Lebanon, NH kimberlyknowltonyoung@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:58 AM
Dietel, Carolyn	New London,, NH cdietel@mtholyoke.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:59 AM
Beattie, Elian	Greenland, NH elian@insightsgroup.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:59 AM
Howard, Raymond	Alton, NH brhowardjr@yahoo.com	An Elected Official	Belknap 8	Support	No	No	2/15/2022 9:01 AM
Robertson, Douglass	Keene, NH thereddouglass1988@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:01 AM
Matthews, Marjorie	Hanover, NH marjoriemattthews@me.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:03 AM
Ransom, Jody	Durham, NH jodyransom@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:04 AM
Pooler, Kimberly	Concord, NH Kpoolr2214@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:08 AM
Stein, Suerae	Keene, NH bsstein@mac.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:08 AM

Duby, Jennifer	Enfield, NH jgduby@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:12 AM
Lieberman, Sheryl	Merrimack, NH sam154@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:12 AM
West-Senor, Kendra	Warner, NH kdubbs@mcttelecom.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:14 AM
DiNardo, Tony	Durham, NC tdinardo@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:17 AM
Scott, Sarah	Harrisville, NH sscott9552@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:32 AM
Canaday, Cynthia	New London, NH Cynthia.canaday@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:40 AM
Canaday, John	New London, NH woodycanaday3@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:40 AM
Boucher, Emily	Dover, NH Emilyrgooch@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:42 AM
Aronson, Elizabeth	Keene, NH parks.elizabeth@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:43 AM
Beattie, Laurie	Rye, NH La_beattie@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:49 AM
Tilli-Pauling, Marianne	Amherst, NH m.tillipauling@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:52 AM
O'Regan, Conor	Londonderry, NH conororegan11@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:53 AM
McKenney, Heidi	Somersworth, NH Plantnrant@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:53 AM
Dudley, Caitlin	Manchester, NH cdudley628@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:57 AM
Tilli-Pauling, Nigel	Amherst, NH N.tillipauling@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:58 AM
Hampton, Doris	Canterbury, NH dandmhamp38@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 10:02 AM
Knab, Allison	Stratham, NH allisonmknab@yahoo.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 10:04 AM
Kingston, Bill	New Castle, NH dc9guy@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 10:04 AM

little, kathleen	hanover, NH kathylittle04@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 10:12 AM
Burnap, Linda	Wolfeboro, NH 54able@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 10:13 AM
Waters, Allan	Hanover, NH Allan.Waters@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 10:15 AM
Reeves, Rene	Peterborough, NH renerreeves@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 10:21 AM
Ricker, Heidi	Londonderry, NH littlebear14736@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 10:23 AM
conway, Bradley	Manchester, NH bjc916@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 10:24 AM
Hampton, Mark	Canterbury, NH dandmhamp38@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 10:24 AM
Newick, Catharine	Canterbury, NH Csnewick@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 10:30 AM
Painten, Elisa	DURHAM, NH epainten@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 10:33 AM
TETREAULT, MICHELLE	HAMPTON, NH MMTMSW@COMCAST.NET	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 10:34 AM
Leon, Glenda	Epsom, NH glendal@ywcanh.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 10:35 AM
Hawkin, H Clay	Claremont, NH hclayhawkins@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 10:38 AM
Stinson, Benjamin	CONCORD, NH benrkstinson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 10:40 AM
Stallsmith, Ingrid	Hanover, NH Ingrid.Stall@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 10:48 AM
Sanborn, Logan	Henniker, NH Logansanborn97@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 10:50 AM
Turmel, James	Portsmouth, NH Nhturmel13@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 10:50 AM
Smith, Maja	Canterbury, NH majahauck@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 10:54 AM
Raiano, Katherine	Milford, NH jazzypenguin14@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 11:00 AM

Petrin Ellis, Kacie	Brookline, NH kpetrin_ellis@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 11:03 AM
Aronson, Daniel	Keene, NH daniel.h.aronson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 11:07 AM
Parks-Damon, Kyle	South Weymouth, MA kyledamon96@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Neutral	No	No	2/15/2022 11:14 AM
Bond, Lily	Keene, NH lilykbond@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 11:20 AM
Dahme, Pat	Concord, NH Patkind62@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 11:25 AM
Rich, Cecilia	Somersworth, NH cecilia.rich@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 11:26 AM
Masters, Rev. Scott	Keene, NH scott.masters@osram.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 11:27 AM
Cunningham, Taylor	Dover, NH rosemakesart@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 11:32 AM
Cheney, Sonya	Chesterfield, NH sonyaeatszombies@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 11:38 AM
Stallsmith, Joseph	Hanover, NH Joseph.stall@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 11:38 AM
Sullivan, Grady	Manchester, NH sullivan.grady97@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 11:43 AM
Kalvaitis, Tracey	Dublin, NH Traceymaykalvaitis@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 11:55 AM
Rule, Ellen	Franklin, NH ellenrule@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 12:03 PM
Masters, Anna	Keene, NH annakmasters@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 12:03 PM
Malmberg, Richard	Walpole, NH pastorrichardwcc@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 12:06 PM
Rabinowitz, Celia	Keene, NH cerabinowitz@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 12:15 PM
Vinson, Victoria	Nashua, NH vicvinson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 12:16 PM
Masters, Sophie	Keene, NH sophiekeene2001@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 12:17 PM

Seger, Jerriane	SUNAPEE, NH Anne.seger603@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 12:18 PM
Murphy, Daniel	Hollis, NH dln@opost.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 12:24 PM
Rosenberger, Teresa	Manchester, NH trosenberger@bssn.com	A Lobbyist	CASA, Court Appointed Special Advocate	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 12:27 PM
Garfield, Lynn	Lebanon, NH lynngarfield17@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 12:29 PM
West, Anna	Lebanon, NH abtwest@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 12:40 PM
McCarthy, Judith	Lebanon, NH mccarthy.judy@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 12:49 PM
Hall, Michael	Keene, NH rev.michaelkuuc1824@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 12:52 PM
Canada, Liz	Concord, NH Elizabeth.canada@ppnne.org	A Lobbyist	Planned Parenthood NH Action Fund	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 12:57 PM
Tomlinson, Elizabeth	HANOVER, NH eliztomlin@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 12:57 PM
Jurglewicz, Jennifer	White river jct, VT jennajurgs@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 12:58 PM
Gardent, Fran	Etna, NH fgardent@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 12:59 PM
Tremblay, Alan	Keene, NH Atremblay77@me.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/15/2022 1:03 PM
abdu, linda	Hanover, NH lindaabdu@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 1:03 PM
Vanbibber, Rolf	Amherst, NH rolfvanbibber@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 1:12 PM
Bagley, Cynthia	Keene, NH cbagley@ucckeene.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 1:15 PM
Cahill, Atinuke	Newmarket, NH atinukecahill@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 1:21 PM
Harford, Meghan	Newmarket, NH meghanharford@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 1:21 PM
Worth, Rev. Elsa	Keene, NH elsahworth@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 1:27 PM

ziarnowski, georgia	dover, NH georgia.ziarnowski@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 1:28 PM
Gemma, Silas	Manchester, NH silas.gemma@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 2:00 PM
Buzby, Franky	West Lebanon, NH fbuzby23@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 2:26 PM
DeRosa, Robin	Campton, NH orbitractor@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 2:37 PM
Manning, Kate	Manchester, NH kate6032kmj@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 2:38 PM
Conrow, Karen	Jaffrey, NH karenconrow@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 3:01 PM
Pellettieri, Judith	Warner, NH judithpellettieri@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 3:02 PM
Lowe, Juniper	Nashua, NH Juniper.lowe@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 3:39 PM
Larson, Ruth	Alton, NH ruthlarson@msn.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 3:58 PM
Gregory-Davis, Susan	Plainfield, NH Susan@meridenucc.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 4:41 PM
Bourgoin, Linda	Bedford, NH lcb910@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 5:32 PM
Holt, David	Somersworth, NH dabholt@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 5:38 PM
Zhang, Berry	Elmhurst, IL Berryzhang7@gmail.com	A Lobbyist	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 5:59 PM
Porrazzo, Elizabeth	Nashua, NH eporrazz@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 7:02 PM
Conroy, Lauren	Mont Vernon, NH Laurenconroy17@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 7:06 PM
McClure, Emily	WEST LEBANON, NH mcclur51e@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 7:55 PM
Douston, Samantha	Nashua, NH smnthrsdstn@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:14 PM
Frotton, savannah	Stratham, NH sfrotton17@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:17 PM

Motyl, Jennifer	Merrimack, NH jennimot@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 8:35 PM
Cote, Lois	Manchester, NH lcote06@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:00 PM
McMurray, Tonya	Newport, NH tonyam0315@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 9:42 PM
Rubinstein, Rebecca	Chichester, NH rlr2931@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 11:21 PM
Woods, Renia	Bow, NH renia.woods1@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/15/2022 11:48 PM



**Statement by Chris Erchull,
Staff Attorney, GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD),
before the House Children and Family Law Committee,
in opposition to House Bill 68,
An Act Relative to the Definition of Child Abuse**

Honorable Chairperson Rice and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for taking the time to consider my grave concerns about House Bill 68, An Act Relative to the Definition of Child Abuse. This dangerous and misguided legislation targets an already vulnerable group of New Hampshire youth and denies them access to standard necessary medical care.

As an attorney with GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD), New England's leading legal rights organization dedicated to ensuring equality for LGBTQ people and people living with HIV, I urge the Committee to retain HB 68 or vote decisively that HB 68 is inexpedient to legislate. This bill flies in the face of the overwhelming medical consensus, violates the laws of New Hampshire, and is out of line with our shared values.

Everyone here knows that transgender people are an integral part of our society. They are our co-workers, our neighbors, and our friends. Transgender youth attend our schools, our churches, and our birthday parties. Everyone here wants the same thing for all young people in New Hampshire—to grow up safe and healthy, to develop important life skills, and to be contributing members of our society. But many of our transgender youth need medical care to treat a condition known as gender dysphoria. With treatment to alleviate the symptoms of gender dysphoria, they can be perfectly healthy assets to our communities. But denying them access to medical care would be unconscionable, leading to negative outcomes that none of us want.

The consensus of medical experts and all major medical organizations agree that gender affirming healthcare is the **only** safe and effective treatment for transgender young people who experience gender dysphoria.¹ The treatments that would be criminalized by this bill are life saving for many adolescents and teenagers whose gender identity does not align with the sex assigned to them at birth. Denying them access to healthcare would be harmful and reckless.

¹ All leading U.S. medical associations have policy positions attesting to the medical necessity of gender affirming healthcare including: American Academy of Pediatrics, American Medical Association, American Psychiatric Association, American Psychological Association, American College of Physicians, American Academy of Family Physicians, American Academy of Nursing, American Public Health Association, and World Professional Association of Transgender Health. See ACLU-PA, Medical Necessity of Transition-Related Health Care, https://www.aclupa.org/sites/default/files/field_documents/resource_sheet_trans-related_medical_consensus.pdf.

House Bill 68 contradicts the letter and the spirit of New Hampshire laws that protect the rights of our LGBTQ residents. In 2018, the State of New Hampshire took a big step forward in acknowledging that all people are entitled to live free from discrimination in public life based on gender identity, in passing House Bill 1319. In September of 2019, a new law went into effect prohibiting discrimination in schools because of a student's gender identity (among other protected characteristics).²

In 2018, this body also passed House Bill 587 with bipartisan support, prohibiting the long discredited practice of conversion therapy on LGBTQ youth. When this bill became law, the ineffective and unethical practice of attempting to change a person's gender identity was outlawed, ensuring that minors in New Hampshire experiencing gender dysphoria will have a clear path to appropriate treatment, including, in the words of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP), the "exploration of living in a different gender role" and the "use of affirming gender transition interventions"³ We understand that LGBTQ people cannot be asked to change a fundamental part of their identity. This bill asks transgender children to do exactly that. Furthermore it criminalizes families for supporting their children and labels them as abusers.

Importantly, House Bill 608 banned discrimination against transgender people in accessing medically necessary gender affirming healthcare in 2019. Following the passage of HB 608, the New Hampshire Insurance Commissioner released his Bulletin INS 20-033-AB, prohibiting gender identity discrimination in health insurance.⁴ House Bill 68 would represent a shift away from agreed upon standards of care and the laws of New Hampshire. Our laws demonstrate that we understand the importance of access to medical care for transgender youth and their families.

Transgender students already face high levels of exclusion and bullying,⁵ which has a negative impact on their health.⁶ New Hampshire has made great strides toward

² RSA § 354-A:27 ("No person shall be . . . subjected to discrimination in public schools because of their . . . gender identity . . ."). See also RSA § 354-A:28 ("Any person claiming to be aggrieved by a discriminatory practice prohibited under RSA 354-A:27 may initiate a civil action in superior court against a school or school district for legal or equitable relief, or file a complaint with the commission as provided in RSA 354-A:21").

³ American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, Conversion Therapy (2018), https://www.aacap.org/aacap/policy_statements/2018/Conversion_Therapy.aspx. AACAP has spoken out against state legislative efforts to deny access to medical care: "State-based legislation regarding the treatment of transgender youth that directly oppose the evidence-based care recognized by professional societies across multiple disciplines is a serious concern." American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, AACAP Statement Responding to Efforts to Ban Evidence-Based Care for Transgender and Gender Diverse Youth (Nov. 8, 2019), https://www.aacap.org/AACAP/Latest_News/AACAP_Statement_Responding_to_Efforts-to_ban_Evidence-Based_Care_for_Transgender_and_Gender_Diverse.aspx.

⁴ The State of New Hampshire Insurance Department, Bulletin Docket No: INS 20-033-AB (Jun. 8, 2020), <https://www.nh.gov/insurance/media/bulletins/2020/documents/ins-20-033-ab-gender-identity-discrimination-prohibited.pdf>.

⁵ See "School Climate for Transgender Students," Welcoming Schools: A Project of the Human Rights Campaign Foundation, *available at* https://assets2.hrc.org/welcoming-schools/documents/WS_School_Climate_for_Transgender_Students_Data.pdf.

protecting our transgender youth from harm, and we must not undermine that support by taking the unprecedented step of precluding their access to medical care in line with best practice standards.

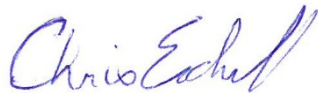
This bill is part of a harmful nationwide effort by anti-LGBTQ groups to create division and polarization by promoting laws that deny transgender people access to healthcare. Bills similar to HB 68 have been introduced in at least five other states so far this year.⁷ The divisive goal behind this coordinated national attack on transgender youth is not in line with the values of the people of New Hampshire or its Legislature. This bill would be a tragic step backward from the progress this state has made toward full equality, including the landmark legislation that added gender identity as a protected class to New Hampshire's nondiscrimination law and the law eliminating conversion therapy in 2018, and the robust protections in public schools signed into law in 2019.

This Committee must not allow this bill to go before the House with a favorable recommendation. The shared values of the people of New Hampshire demand the immediate rejection of this bill, which targets a group of vulnerable young people in order to exclude them from accessing necessary and life-saving healthcare. Instead, we should continue to work together to support inclusion, equal rights, and equal dignity.

Thank you for your consideration, and I hope you will reject HB 68 and ensure equality for all Granite Staters.

February 3, 2021

Submitted by:



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⁶ See Erin C. Wilson, et al., The Impact of Discrimination on the Mental Health of Trans* Female Youth and the Protective Effect of Parental Support, *AIDS & Behavior* 20(10), 2203-2211 (2016), *available at* <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5025345/>.

⁷ See, e.g., Alabama HB 1 and SB 10, Vulnerable Child Compassion and Protection Act; Indiana SB 0224, Prohibited Services Relating to Care of Minors; Missouri HB 33, An Act to Amend Chapter 191, RSMo; Mississippi SB 2171, An Act to Create the Transgender 21 Act; Montana HB 113 (Defeated), An Act Providing for Youth Health Protection; Utah HB 92, Medical Practice Amendments: This Bill Prohibits a Physician or Surgeon from Performing a Transgender Procedure on a Minor.



The Dangers of Presumptive Joint Physical Custody

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Introduction

Popular proposals to enact statutory presumptions for joint physical custody (JPC) threaten the safety and well-being of battered women and their children. While Idaho appears to be the only state to have a universal statutory presumption for JPC,² several other states have presumptions that operate under specific circumstances (*e.g.*, where the parties agree to JPC or they fail to reach an agreement regarding JPC).³ Proponents of JPC have developed an appealing theme to promote a presumption, advocating the benefits and fairness of having both parents equally engaged in their children’s lives under a “shared parenting” or “co-parenting arrangement.”⁴ The danger of presumptive JPC is that it assumes that “shared parenting” and “co-parenting” are inherently good for all children, without regard to what is actually happening in the lives of the dissolving family. In this way, presumptive JPC blindly elevates the rights of parents – even really bad parents – over the safety and well-being of children. It also disregards a significant body of research that questions the benefits of JPC and its impact on children. Nevertheless, efforts by JPC proponents to promote legislative presumptions are gaining traction. This document explains the legal implications of JPC presumptions and the negative impact such presumptions have on battered women and their children.

² IDAHO CODE §32-717B(4).

³ States that have presumptions of joint physical custody (or its equivalent) when parties agree to it include Maine, Michigan, Mississippi, Oregon and Vermont. 19-A ME. REV. STAT. §1651, 1653(2)(a); MICH. COMP. LAWS §722.26a(2); MISS. CODE §93-5-24(4); OR. REV. STAT. §107.169, Subd. 4; 15 VT. STAT. §666. Louisiana statutes provide that in the absence of an agreement between the parties, the court shall award custody to parents jointly. LA. REV. STAT. §9:335, Art. 132. Additionally, many states have statutory presumptions for joint legal custody, or for joint custody, generally. Those presumptions are not discussed here.

⁴ This linguistic shift might seem, at first blush, to be a matter of benign political correctness. In fact, these are politically negotiated terms that predispose the family court (as well as attorneys, guardians ad litem, custody evaluators, mediators and even the litigants themselves) to devise joint custody arrangements, even where such arrangements are inconsistent with the best interests of the child.

An Overview of Joint Physical Custody

Within the context of family law, custody generally refers to the care and control of a minor child. The concept of custody is further refined by distinguishing the *authority* to make important major life decisions on behalf of the child from the *responsibility* for the everyday supervision and care of the child, including providing a primary home for the child. The former is often referred to as “legal custody,” while the latter is generally referred to as “physical custody.”

Although the precise legal definition of “*joint physical custody*” varies from state to state, it is generally understood to be an arrangement whereby the daily care, control and residence of the child are shared, often (but not always) equally, between the child’s parents.⁵ Children will often spend relatively equal time at each parent’s home, and both parents may be deeply involved in their children’s daily affairs (meals, transportation to and from school and activities, homework, etc.). Hence, a necessary corollary of JPC is that parents have frequent and ongoing contact with each other, ideally cooperating in parenting until the child reaches majority.

Sharing physical custody of a child is not inherently harmful and can work quite well for some families; specifically those in which there is no history of violence, little conflict, and where *both* parents share a demonstrated commitment and ability to work together.⁶ In fact, many families prefer this type of arrangement and freely choose it for post-dissolution parenting.⁷

⁵ See, e.g. MINN. STAT. §518.003 3(d) (2008).

⁶ One study found that models of shared parenting, like JPC, were “a viable arrangement for a small and distinct group of families, who self-selected into [the] arrangements.” Jennifer McIntosh & Richard Chisholm, *Cautionary Notes on the Shared Care of Children in Conflicted Parental Separation*, 14 J. FAM. STUD. 37, 38 (2008). See, also, Christy M. Buchanan & Parissa Jahromi, *A Psychological Perspective on Shared Custody Arrangements*, 43 WAKE FOREST L. REV. 419, 424 (2008).

⁷ Robert E. Emery, Randy K. Otto & William T. O’Donohue, *A Critical Assessment of Child Custody Evaluations: Limited Science and a Flawed System*, 6 PSYCHOL. SCI. PUB. INT. 1, 17 (2005); Mary Ann Mason, *THE CUSTODY WARS: WHY CHILDREN ARE LOSING THE BATTLE AND WHAT WE CAN DO ABOUT IT*, 63-64 (2000).

The Best Interest of the Child

The paramount interest in crafting custody arrangements is to discern and protect the safety and well-being of children. Most states require that family courts apply what is known as “the best interest of the child” standard in reaching custody decisions.⁸ While “best interest of the child” standards vary from state to state, they typically instruct courts to consider a list of statutorily enumerated factors to determine which parenting arrangements are appropriate for the child under the particular circumstances of the case. These factors focus squarely on the child and, depending on the jurisdiction, include such considerations as: (1) the wishes of the parents; (2) the preferences of the child; (3) the child’s interaction and interrelationships within the larger family unit and extended care-giving network; (4) the child’s adjustment to home, school and community; and (5) the mental and physical health of all interested parties.⁹ While many states have slightly different and often expanded lists of “best interest factors,” the intention is the same: to ensure that custody determinations remain child-centered.¹⁰ That is, whatever specific form it takes, the best interest of the child standard is designed to produce custody outcomes that are good for children.

Practically speaking, the best interest of the child standard has been extremely challenging for courts to apply. Over the years, the standard has been criticized for being elusive

⁸ See, ALA. CODE §30-3-152; ALASKA STAT. §25.24.150; ARIZ. REV. STAT. §25-403.03; ARK. CODE §9-13-101(c); CAL. FAM. CODE §3011; COLO. REV. STAT. §14-10-124; CONN. GEN. STAT. §46b-56a(c); DEL. CODE 13 §722; D.C. CODE §16-914 (a)(3); FLA. STAT. §16.13(3); GA. CODE §19-9-3(a); HAW. REV. STAT. §571-46; IDAHO CODE §32-717; ILL. COMP. STAT. 5/602(a); IND. CODE §31-17-2-8; IOWA CODE §598.41; KAN. STAT. §60-1610; KY. STAT. §403.270(2); LA. REV. STAT. §9:36; 19-A ME. REV. STAT. §§1653; MASS. GEN. LAWS 208 §31; MICH. COMP. LAWS §722.23; MINN. STAT. §518.17(1); MISS. CODE §93-5-24; MO. STAT. §452.375(2); MONT. CODE §40-4-212(1); NEB. REV. STAT. §42-364(2); NEV. REV. STAT. §125.480(4); N.H. REV. STAT. §461-A:6(I); N.J. STAT. §9:2-4; N.Y. DOM. REL. LAW §240; N.C. GEN. STAT. §50-13.2; N.D. CENT. CODE §14-09-06.2; OHIO REV. CODE §3109.04(F); OR. REV. STAT. §§107.137(1); 23 PA. CONS. STAT. §5303; R.I. GEN. LAWS 1956 §15-5-16; S.C. CODE 1976 §20-7-1520; TENN. CODE §36-6-106(a); UTAH CODE §30-3-10.2; 15 VT. STAT. §665(b); VA. CODE §20-124.3; WIS. STAT. §767.41(5); WYO. STAT. §20-2-201.

⁹ See, e.g., UNIF. MARRIAGE & DIVORCE ACT §402, 9A U.L.A. 288 (1979).

¹⁰ Linda Elrod & Milfred Dale, *Paradigm Shifts and Pendulum Swings in Child Custody: The Interests of the Children in Balance*, 42 FAM. L. Q. 381, 397 (2008).

and unpredictable, inviting protracted litigation and competing expert opinions, and ultimately leaving critical parenting determinations to the discretion of the family court judge or other surrogate decision maker (*e.g.*, a custody evaluator, guardian ad litem, or other non-judicial court appointee).¹¹ One of the seemingly attractive features of the JPC presumption is that it bypasses the problematic application of the best interest of the child standard.¹² Rather than having to grapple with a long list of ill-defined factors and suffer the agony of protracted litigation, the JPC presumption permits the court to cut right to the chase and make a quick, easy and predictable custody award.¹³ The apparent appeal of the presumption comes at a cost, however: it takes consideration of the child's best interests out of the calculus altogether.¹⁴

¹¹ Mary Ann Mason, *THE CUSTODY WARS: WHY CHILDREN ARE LOSING THE BATTLE AND WHAT WE CAN DO ABOUT IT*, 19 (2000). Elrod & Dale, *supra* n. 9 at 42.

¹² Lyn R. Greenberg, Dianna J. Gould-Saltman, & Robert Schnider, *The Problem with Presumptions: A Review and Commentary*, in *RELOCATION ISSUES IN CHILD CUSTODY CASES* (Philip Stahl & Leslie Drozd eds., 2006).

¹³ Contrary to assertions by its proponents, a JPC presumption is not likely to reduce litigation. In fact, it is more likely to have the opposite effects. In Oregon, for instance, post-decree litigation nearly doubled after enactment of its statutory JPC presumption. Margaret Brining, *Does Parental Autonomy Require Equal Custody at Divorce?* 65 *LA. L. REV.* 1345, 1368 (2005).

¹⁴ Lindsay Dangel, *A Critical Evaluation of Presumptions in Favor of Joint Custody: Why Michigan Should Not Follow the Trend*, 11 *MICH. CHILD WELFARE L.J.* 9, 17 (2008).

How the Joint Physical Custody Presumption Works

The joint physical custody presumption is a legal short-cut. It presupposes that joint physical custody is in the best interest of the child.¹⁵ Unlike most presumptions, which spring into effect only after a predicate fact has been established, the JPC presumption begins at the end: it starts with the legal conclusion that JPC is in the best interest of the child.¹⁶ As discussed below, the scientific research does not support this conclusion.¹⁷ Herein lies the legal peril: the JPC presumption universally applies a legal “conclusion” that is not universally true. It mandates a finding that JPC is in the best interest of the child, *even though the research shows that the exact opposite is often true.*¹⁸

The JPC presumption is generally rebuttable. That means that the legal conclusion that JPC is in the best interest of the child may be challenged through the introduction of contrary evidence. If no contrary evidence is introduced, the legal conclusion stands.¹⁹ In other words, joint physical custody will be deemed to be in the best interest of the child unless the parent who

¹⁵ See, e.g., IDAHO CODE §32-717B(4) (2007) (“...there shall be a presumption that joint custody is in the best interest of the child.”); D.C. CODE §16-914(a)(2) (2001) (“There shall be a rebuttable presumption that joint custody is in the best interest of the child...”); N.M. STAT. §40-4-9.1(A) (2007) (“There shall be a presumption that joint custody is in the best interests of a child...”).

¹⁶ In most cases, presumptions spring into effect only after some predicate fact has been established. Greenberg et al., *supra* n. 11. In the case of the presumption *against* JPC due to domestic violence, for instance, the presumption does not spring into operation unless a party first establishes the predicate fact that domestic violence has occurred. Only after the predicate fact has been established can the court infer that joint physical custody is *not* in the best interest of the child. By contrast, the JPC presumption does not require proof of a predicate fact. It simply starts with a conclusion without any foundational showing whatsoever.

¹⁷ See discussion, *infra*.

¹⁸ The logical fallacy is that the JPC presumption converts an untested “judgment” (that JPC is in the best interest of the child) into a conclusive “fact.”

¹⁹ Criminal law provides a familiar example of how legal presumptions work. In the United States, criminal defendants benefit from a legal presumption of innocence unless the State can produce enough evidence to prove otherwise. A defendant bears no evidentiary burden unless the State first meets its burden of proof beyond a reasonable doubt. The rebuttable JPC presumption works the same way, except that the burden to overcome the presumption requires a lesser degree of proof. The parent who desires joint physical custody bears no evidentiary burden unless the other parent puts on sufficient evidence to show that JPC is *not* in the best interest of the child.

has reason to doubt that conclusion proves otherwise. This places a substantial evidentiary burden on the party who believes that joint physical custody is *not* good for the child.²⁰

Operationally, the JPC presumption means that physical custody will be shared by the parents, without regard to the safety and well-being of the child, unless the parent seeking to avoid the arrangement can produce enough evidence to rebut the presumption. The danger of the JPC presumption is that, unless affirmatively challenged, the court is required to order joint physical custody regardless of whether that arrangement *is actually* in the best interest of the child or meets the specific needs of the dissolving family. In other words, joint physical custody will be ordered even if, *in reality*, it is bad for the child. Justice White recognized the peril of custody presumptions in *Stanley v. Illinois* where he observed:

Procedure by presumption is always cheaper and easier...than individualized determination. But when...the procedure forecloses the determinative issues of competence and care, when it explicitly disdains present realities in deference to past formalities, it needlessly risks running roughshod over the important interests of both parent and child.²¹

As appealing as the JPC presumption may seem on the surface, it is a poor mechanism for decision-making in child custody cases.²² Without a JPC presumption, courts must consider the *actual* best interests of the child in fashioning appropriate custody awards. With a JPC presumption, courts do not have to think about the child at all, unless one of the parents has the wherewithal to mount a formal legal challenge.²³

²⁰ Since family court litigants often appear *pro se*, it is doubtful that many unrepresented parents will understand that they have an evidentiary burden, much less how they might meet that burden without the benefit of counsel.

²¹ *Stanley v. Illinois*, 405 U.S. 645 (1972) (considering the presumption that unwed fathers are unfit parents) .

²² Greenberg et al., *supra* n. 11..

²³ This is risky business in a jurisdiction that has a “friendly parent” provision. *See discussion, infra*.

The Presumption Contradicts Research on Joint Custody

Proponents of presumptive JPC claim that children are much better off when both parents are jointly engaged in their lives.²⁴ In fact, when parents freely elect to parent cooperatively, and they have the commitment and resources to sustain a shared parenting arrangement without significant levels of conflict, children tend to adjust well to joint custody.²⁵ However, even in families where joint physical custody is voluntarily chosen, research indicates that it does not always prove to be a stable or desirable model over time.²⁶ Moreover, given the choice, parents who are able to successfully negotiate appropriate post-dissolution parenting arrangements with little or no conflict rarely opt for joint physical custody, and even more rarely choose a purely equal physical custody arrangement.²⁷

The presumption that joint physical custody is in the best interests of the child directly contradicts current research. According to a team of psychologists at Wake Forest University,

²⁴ Robert Emery, *THE TRUTH ABOUT CHILDREN AND DIVORCE: DEALING WITH THE EMOTIONS SO YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN CAN THRIVE*, 176 (2004). The unspoken assumption is that parents are naturally involved in their children's lives when, in actuality, they often are not. There is no research to suggest that an uninvolved parent will become involved simply by virtue of a joint parenting arrangement. Anne Opie, *Ideologies of Joint Custody*, 31 *FAM. & CONCILIATION CTS. REV.* 313 (1993); Barbara Bennett Woodhouse, *Child Custody in the Age of Children's Rights: The Search for a Just and Workable Standard*, 33 *FAM. L. Q.* 815 (1999).

²⁵ One study found that models of shared parenting, like JPC, were a "viable arrangement for a small and distinct group of families who self-selected into [the] arrangement," but noted that "most separating parents who require Court or dispute resolution services to determine their contact and care arrangements unfortunately do not share these characteristics." Jennifer McIntosh & Richard Chisholm, *Cautionary Notes on the Shared Care of Children in Conflicted Parental Separation*, 14 *J. FAM. STUD.* 37 (2008). Christy Buchanan & Parissa Jahromi, *A Psychological Perspective on Shared Custody Arrangements* 43 *WAKE FOREST L. REV.* 419, 425. The economic realities of impoverished families, especially within poor communities of color, can make joint physical custody arrangements especially cumbersome and impractical. Margaret Martin Barry, *The District of Columbia's Joint Custody Presumption: Misplaced Blame and Simplistic Solutions*, 46 *CATH. U. L. REV.* 767 (1997).

²⁶ Study of joint custody families found that nearly half did not maintain that arrangement over time. Eleanor E. Maccoby & Robert H. Mnookin, *DIVIDING THE CHILD: SOCIAL AND LEGAL DILEMMAS OF CUSTODY*, 103, 300 (1992). In another study, one-third of the parents who voluntarily agreed to joint custody reverted to sole custody for a variety of logistical reasons. Susan Steinman, *The Experience of Children in a Joint Custody Arrangement*, 51 *AM. J. ORTHOPSYCHIATRY* 403 (1981). In yet another study, only one-third of the parents with an initial joint physical custody order maintained that arrangements over time. Margaret A. Little, *The Impact of the Custody Plan on the Family: A Five Year Follow-Up*. Los Angeles County Family Court Services (1991). In the UK, approximately 60% of negotiated parenting arrangements had broken down within two years. Liz Trinder & Joanne Kellett, *The Longer-Term Outcomes of In-Court Conciliation*, United Kingdom Ministry of Justice (2007).

²⁷ Maccoby & Mnookin, *supra* n. 25 at 300; *See, also*, McIntosh & Chisholm, *supra* n. 24 at 38 (*citing*, Smyth B (Ed) (2004) *Parent Child Contact and Postseparation Parenting Arrangements*. Research Report No. 9, Australian Institute of Family Studies, Melbourne).

“[I]mposing joint physical custody on families who are litigating, particularly if litigation is protracted, is highly unlikely to promote the best interests of the children and may in fact do them harm.”²⁸ This conclusion is reinforced by numerous longitudinal investigations, including two recent studies in Australia following implementation of shared parenting legislation in 2006. The research suggests, among other things, that post-separation shared parenting arrangements can negatively impact children’s emotional and physical development, particularly where the parents are engaged in entrenched conflict.²⁹

Significantly, the current research neither absolutely supports nor absolutely rejects joint physical custody arrangements.³⁰ Rather, it demands “informed and careful consideration...of whether shared care...provides a desirable and viable developmental pathway for each child in the circumstances of each case.”³¹ In other words, the weight of the research calls for an individualized analysis of whether JPC is in the best interests of the child. Presumptive JPC calls for none. It treats every case the same, regardless of the developmental needs of the children or the level and context of parental conflict.

²⁸ Buchanan & Jahromi, *supra* n. 24 at 428.

²⁹ McIntosh & Chisholm, *supra* n. 24 at 50. In a California study of family court judges, two-thirds concluded that joint custody imposed by presumption led to negative or mixed results for children. Thomas J. Reddy, et al., *Child Custody Decisions: A Survey of Judges* 23 FAM. L. Q. 75, 80 (1989).

³⁰ There is no one-size-fits-all custody arrangement that works for all families. Even when violence is present in a family, these families should not all be treated identically either. Uniform treatment in any category ends up hurting children most. We should “not assume uniform characteristics or experiences for children who have been exposed to violence perpetrated against their mothers.” Claire Crooks, et al., *Factoring in Effects of Children’s Exposure to Domestic Violence in Determining Appropriate Post-Separation Parenting Plans*, in DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, ABUSE, AND CHILD CUSTODY: LEGAL STRATEGIES AND POLICY ISSUES (Barry Goldstein & Mo Hannah eds., 2009).

³¹ McIntosh & Chisholm, *supra* n. 24 at 38.

Good Faith Efforts to Rebut the Presumption Can Backfire on Children

While joint physical custody presumptions are typically rebuttable, good faith attempts to overcome them can backfire under so-called “friendly parent” provisions built into many state custody laws. “Friendly parent” provisions are commonly included among the long lists of “best interest” factors.³² They ask the court to consider each parent’s willingness to encourage and facilitate frequent and continuing contact between the child and the other parent.³³ A parent who, in good faith, seeks to challenge the JPC presumption implicitly communicates to the court a belief that frequent and continuing contact between the child and the other parent is not good for the child. Even if the parent challenging the JPC presumption does not intend to limit contact between the child and the other parent, the court might draw such an inference from the challenge itself. Consequently, the very act of challenging the presumption can create the perception, whether real or imagined, that the challenging parent would prefer to limit, rather than encourage, contact with the other parent. That perception, in turn, can be – and often is – used against the challenging parent in the court’s best interest of the child analysis.³⁴ Since a good faith challenge to the JPC presumption represents an effort to protect the child, the very act

³² ALA. CODE §30-3-152(a)(3); ALASKA STAT. §25.24.150(c)(6); ARIZ. REV. STAT. §25-403(A)(6); ARK. CODE §9-13-101(b)(2); CAL. FAM. CODE §3040; COLO. REV. STAT. §14-10-124(1.5)(a)(VI); CONN. GEN. STAT. §46b-56(c)(6); FLA. STAT. §61.13(3); 750 ILL. COMP. STAT. 5/602(a)(8); IOWA CODE §598.41(1)(c); KAN. STAT. §60-1610(a)(3)(B)(vi); LA. REV. STAT. Art.134(10); 19-A ME. REV. STAT. §1653.(3)(H); MICH. COMP. LAWS §722.23(j); MINN. STAT. §518.17(13); MO. CODE §452.375(2)(4); NEV. REV. STAT. §125.480(4)(c); N.H. REV. STAT. §461-A:6(l)(e)-(i); N.J. STAT. §9:2-4(c); N.M. STAT. §40-4-9.1(B); OHIO REV. CODE §3109.04(F)(1)(f); OR. REV. STAT. §107.137(1)(f); 23 PA. CONS. STAT. §5303(a)(2); TENN. CODE §36-6-106(a)(10); UTAH CODE 1953 §30-3-10(1)(a)(ii); VA. CODE §20-124.3(6); WIS. STAT. §767.41(5)(10); WYO. STAT. §767.41(5)(10).

³³ *See, e.g.*, MINN. STAT. §518.17(1)(a)(13) (“The best interest of the child’ means all relevant factors to be considered and evaluated by the court including...the disposition of each parent to encourage and permit frequent and continuing contact by the other parent of the child....”).

³⁴ Allison C. Morrill, Jianya Dai, Samantha Dunn, Iyue Sung, & Kevin Smith, *Child Custody and Visitation Decisions When the Father has Perpetrated Violence Against the Mother*, 11 VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN 1076 (2005).

of protection can have the ironic effect of placing the child at greater risk of harm.

Consequently, the rebuttal to the JPC presumption works *worst* when a child needs it *most*.³⁵

³⁵ As a result, a competent attorney might actually counsel his client against challenging the presumption for fear that it could be strategically disadvantageous. Likewise, an informed and genuinely protective parent might think twice before challenging the presumption for fear that the objection could actually put the child in harm's way.

Presumptive Joint Physical Custody and Domestic Violence

The negative implications of presumptive joint physical custody are compounded for families experiencing domestic violence.³⁶ Research suggests that batterers are inappropriate candidates for physical custody in general,³⁷ let alone joint physical custody with the victim parent, and that they serve as poor roles models for their children.³⁸ “In cases where it is established that a parent presents an ongoing risk of violence to the child or (other) parent...no meaningful parent-child relationship is possible.”³⁹ Additionally, the procedural and evidentiary burdens of the presumption already noted are exacerbated for victims of domestic violence, and their general vulnerability litigating against their perpetrators places them at an additional disadvantage. In families with a history of violence, JPC is simply not in the best interest of the child.⁴⁰

In families where domestic violence is present, JPC not only requires ongoing contact between the batterer and his children, but greatly increases the amount of contact, including physical contact, with the victim.⁴¹ Joint physical custody increases the “opportunities for abusers to maintain control and to continue or to escalate abuse toward both women and

³⁶ Mandating JPC in cases where domestic violence is present is perhaps most troubling due to studies demonstrating that in 30% to 60% of cases where a male partner is violent towards his spouse, children are also direct victims of violence. Jeffrey E. Edelson, *The Overlap Between Child Maltreatment and Woman Battering*, 5 VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN 134 (1999).

³⁷ Peter G. Jaffe, et al., *Custody Disputes Involving Allegations of Domestic Violence: Toward a Differentiated Approach to Parenting Plans*, 46 FAM. CT. REV. 500, 515 (2008) (asserting that in families with domestic violence the best parenting arrangement is for sole legal custody and sole physical custody to be assigned to the parent capable of providing a non-violent home); Crooks et al., *supra* n. 29.

³⁸ Peter G. Jaffe, et al., *Parenting After Domestic Violence: Safety as a Priority in Judging Children’s Best Interest*, 6 J. CTR. FAM., CHILDREN & CTS. 81, 82 (2005).

³⁹ Jaffe et al., *supra* n. 36 at 515.

⁴⁰ “The past and potential behavior of men who batter means that joint custody or sole custody to him is rarely the best option for the safety and well-being of the children.” Daniel G. Saunders, *Child Custody and Visitation Decisions in Domestic Violence Cases: Legal Trends, Risk Factors and Safety Concerns* (2007), http://www.vawnet.org/category/Documents.php?docid=1134&category_id=617.

⁴¹ Jaffe et al., *supra* n. 37 at 82.

children.”⁴² Even after a separation or divorce, batterers use joint physical custody arrangements to continue emotional and verbal abuse of their victims, with the children either forgotten, or worse, placed in the middle.⁴³ For batterers, JPC is another tool of control by which they can continue to exert power over their victims, despite physical separation or divorce.⁴⁴ The violent parent has ample opportunity to continue to coercively control the other parent, possibly diminishing that parent’s capacity to parent fully. When this information is considered in light of the data on separation violence and escalation,⁴⁵ it becomes even more apparent that JPC is less a workable parenting arrangement for battered women than a court-sanctioned means for batterers to have continued contact and control over them. Statutory presumptions of JPC effectively endorse batterers’ use of the legal system to maintain control over their victims.⁴⁶

Joint physical custody arrangements in families experiencing domestic violence have negative outcomes for children because the arrangements prolong children’s exposure to violence.⁴⁷ Batterers generally continue their abuse and violence and, if they lack access to the primary victim, children often become the main conduit for violence.⁴⁸ Giving a violent parent

⁴² Saunders, supra n. 39; Jaffe et al., supra n. 37.

⁴³ Crooks et al., supra n. 29.

⁴⁴ That batterers use custody litigation as a tool of control is validated by evidence that men who abuse their partners contest custody over twice as often as non-abusive fathers. Am. Psychol. Ass’n, VIOLENCE AND THE FAMILY: REPORT OF THE AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASS’N PRESIDENTIAL TASK FORCE ON VIOLENCE AND THE FAMILY (1996), available at <http://www.apa.org/pi/viol&fam.html>.

⁴⁵ J.L. Hardesty & G.H. Chung, *Intimate Partner Violence, Parental Divorce, and Child Custody: Directions for Intervention and Future Research*, 55 FAM. REL. 200 (2006); Crooks et al., supra n. 29.

⁴⁶ Peter Jaffe et al., *Common Misperceptions in Addressing Domestic Violence in Child Custody Disputes*, 54 JUV. & FAM. CT. J. 57 (2003); J. L. Hardesty & L. H. Ganong, *A Grounded Theory Model of How Women Make Custody Decisions and Manage Co-Parenting with Abusive Former Husbands*, 23 J. OF SOC. & PERS. RELATIONSHIPS 543 (2006).

⁴⁷ See, e.g. K.M. Kitzmann et al., *Child Witnesses to Domestic Violence: A Meta-analytic Review*, 71 J. OF CONSULTING & CLINICAL PSYCHOL. 339 (2003); D.A. Wolfe, *The Effects of Children’s Exposure to Domestic Violence: A Meta-analysis and Critique*, CLINICAL CHILD & FAM. PSYCHOL. REV. 171 (2003).

⁴⁸ Janet Johnston et al., *Ongoing Postdivorce Conflict: Effects on Joint Custody and Frequent Access* 59 AM. J. OF ORTHOPSYCHIATRY 576 (finding that forced joint physical custody in families where there is domestic violence leads to children being caught in conflict between parents). Additionally, men who batter are also more likely to abuse their children. Jaffe et al., supra n. 37 at 82.

regular, ongoing contact with the other parent places children in dangerous and highly stressful situations.

Additionally, a legal presumption of JPC gives unfair advantages to the batterer-parent in custody negotiations. A batterer often will want to share physical custody of a child because such an arrangement maximizes his contact with and control over the victim-parent. By contrast, a victim-parent will want to minimize or cease contact with the batterer-parent, and have a desire to protect the child from unsupervised contact with the violent parent. A legal presumption of JPC enormously buttresses the batterer-parent's position, as it is also the starting point for the court's analysis, thus creating an enormous legal hurdle for the protective parent.

Indeed, JPC is dangerous for families where domestic violence is present even if it is "voluntarily" chosen. A battered mother's ability to voluntarily choose a custody arrangement in cooperation with her batterer is questionable at best. Due to the nature of domestic violence and the power and control that batterers exert over their victims, it is unlikely that a cooperative choice of any custody arrangement can occur. While a battered mother may not want to choose a JPC arrangement which will mandate future contact with her batterer, she may be pressured or frightened into this choice.⁴⁹ The strong likelihood that battered women are pressured into JPC arrangements is a related but separate subject that practitioners, advocates, and courts should always keep in mind. For this and similar reasons, many states have actually adopted presumptions *against* joint physical custody if domestic violence is present.⁵⁰

⁴⁹ See, Penelope E. Bryan, *Killing Us Softly: Divorce Mediation and the Politics of Power*, 40 BUFF. L. REV. 441 (1992); *The Coercion of Women in Divorce Settlement Negotiations*, 74 DENV. U. L. REV. 931 (1997); and *Women's Freedom to Contract at Divorce: A Mask for Contextual Coercion*, 47 BUFF. L. REV. 1153 (1999).

⁵⁰ See, e.g., MINN. STAT. 518.17(2)(d) ("...the court shall use a rebuttable presumption that joint legal or physical custody is not in the best interests of the child if domestic abuse...has occurred between the parents.").

Domestic violence is present in a significant number of custody cases,⁵¹ but there is no reliable way to identify and track these cases for special treatment. It is clear that JPC represents a worst-case scenario for families with domestic violence, and because there is no guaranteed way to ensure that those cases are identified and treated differently, a presumption simply should not apply to any families. These presumptions both ignore the frequency with which families with custody disputes are affected by domestic violence and tacitly condone the violence by forcing all families into the very custody arrangement that is most dangerous for battered women and their children. In families where domestic violence is present, joint physical custody arrangements create tremendous safety concerns by allowing substantial opportunities for batterers to access the other parent.

⁵¹ See, e.g. Janet Johnston, *High Conflict Divorce*, 4 THE FUTURE OF CHILDREN 165 (1994) (finding that among one sample population of disputed custody cases in mediation, 70-75% of parental couples had experienced physical aggression in the relationship); Janet Johnston et al., *Allegations and Substantiations of Abuse in Custody-Disputing Families* 43 FAM. CT. REV. 283, 288 (2005).

Domestic Violence Exceptions to Presumptions of JPC Do Not Work

Many states with statutory presumptions for joint legal or physical custody include language that directs courts *not* to apply the presumption for joint custody if a court finds that domestic violence has occurred between the parents.⁵² In fact, some states have statutes directing courts to apply a rebuttable presumption *against* joint legal or physical custody if a court finds that domestic violence has occurred between the parents.⁵³ Unfortunately, the exceptions existing in statute today have proved largely futile because of the very nature of domestic violence.

An exception to a JPC presumption for domestic violence fails to provide sufficient protection to battered women and their children, because there is no reliable way for courts to consistently or accurately distinguish custody cases with domestic violence from others.⁵⁴ Given conflicting stories from two parents involved in a custody dispute, “[a] naïve professional in the family court system may dismiss or minimize the claims of both spouses or erroneously conclude that the abuse is mutual when it is not.”⁵⁵ For many reasons, courts are poorly equipped to make accurate determinations about the presence of violence, thus rendering domestic violence exceptions ineffective. Many victims of domestic violence do not call their experience by labels that make it easily identifiable, especially if their experiences include more aspects of coercive control and less physical violence. A battered woman might not stand up in court and call herself such, partly because she may not recognize her own experience as abuse or battering.

Additionally, victims of domestic violence may have no verifiable proof that the abuse is

⁵² IOWA CODE §598.41(1)(a); N.H. REV. STAT. §461-A:5 (presumption is overcome by presence of domestic violence); TEX. FAM. CODE §153.131 (presumption is automatically overcome by a finding of domestic violence); W.V. CODE §48-9-207 (presumption is overcome by a showing of abuse).

⁵³ See, e.g. MINN. STAT. 518.17, subd. 2.

⁵⁴ Cases of domestic violence often get confused or lumped in with “high conflict” cases. Yet, “minimizing battering as ‘couples conflict’ can result in a failure to institute the proper safeguards for women and children.” Crooks et al., *supra* n. 29.

⁵⁵ Jaffe et al., *supra* n. 36 at 507.

occurring. Women might never report the abuse to the police or take other action like seeking protection orders, leaving them without documentation to present to a court. Victims of domestic violence might also fail to self-identify due to very real fears. They may fear retaliation from their batterer for bringing up the violence and attempting to avoid application of the presumption. They might have fear or mistrust of the legal system or worry about child protective services involvement. Victims of domestic violence might also fear that they will not be believed⁵⁶ and will have revealed a very painful truth for nothing. Victims' attorneys might discourage victims from disclosing violence because they believe such allegations will make the victim appear vindictive and uncooperative or "unfriendly."⁵⁷ In those states that have domestic violence exceptions to legal presumptions for joint physical custody, allegations of domestic violence are rarely made.

Courts might also have difficulty assessing and differentiating between different forms of violence used between parties. Force used in self-defense might look like aggressive violence or battering in the context of a custody battle. An individual's single use of violence might carry the same weight as another individual's use of violent behavior over many years. Courts are ill-equipped to gauge the fear and actual impact an individual's ongoing use of violence has on a family. Courts simply have difficulty identifying domestic violence,⁵⁸ thus exceptions to a JPC presumption do not work. An exception is pointless when there is no way to determine the cases to which the exception will apply.

⁵⁶ "Reports of abuse first made in the context of litigation should never be dismissed solely because of the timing of disclosure." *Id.* See also Johnston et al., *supra* n. 50 at 288 (reporting data that allegations of abuse by mothers and fathers was substantiated at near-identical rates, disproving a parental alienation perspective that mothers are more likely to make unfounded allegations).

⁵⁷ See discussion of "friendly parent" provisions within the best interest of the child standard, *supra*.

⁵⁸ *E.g.*, M. A. Kernic et al., *Children in the Crossfire: Child Custody Determinations Among Couples with a History of Intimate Partner Violence* 11 VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN 991 (2005); Jaffe et al., *supra* n. 37 at 84 ("the intended consequences of domestic violence (i.e., intimidation, silence, and fear)...increase the odds that the court simply will not know enough about the parties to be concerned about safety issues).

Listen to Children

A presumption of JPC produces bad outcomes for battered women; it forces them to have prolonged contact with their batterers and exposes them to continued violence. A presumption of JPC also leads to continued violence in the lives of children. Recent research demonstrates that exposure to violence has incredible negative impacts on children.⁵⁹ Children exposed to domestic violence can have the same levels of emotional and behavioral problems as children who are direct victims of physical or sexual abuse.⁶⁰ Children exposed to domestic violence are more likely than other children to be aggressive and exhibit behavioral problems.⁶¹ Additionally, these children display higher rates of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder symptoms.⁶² Specific problems vary depending on the age of the children, but exposure to violence has a developmental impact at every stage of a child's life, including: interruption of brain development (birth-3 years), inappropriate messages that violence is a tool (3-6 years), rationalizing of violence and difficulty forming peer relationships (6-12 years), use of violence in dating relationships, risk-taking behavior and drug use (12+ years).⁶³

Although those promoting joint custody frequently minimize the seriousness of domestic violence and suggest that domestic violence should not interfere with a father's rights to custody of children, the research asking children about their experiences tells a different story. In one of only a handful of studies designed specifically to study children's experiences of domestic violence, McGee interviewed 54 children and 48 abused mothers,⁶⁴ finding that in 41 of the

⁵⁹ Peter G. Jaffe et al., *Common Misperceptions in Addressing Domestic Violence in Child Custody Disputes*, 54 JUV. & FAM. CT. J. 57 (2003).

⁶⁰ *Id.* at 60.

⁶¹ Crooks et al., *supra* n. 29.

⁶² G. Margolin, *Posttraumatic Stress in Children and Adolescents Exposed to Family Violence*, 38 PROF. PSYCHOL.: RES. & PRAC. 613 (2007).

⁶³ Crooks et al., *supra* n. 29.

⁶⁴ C. McGee, CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, 15 (2000).

families (85%) children were eyewitnesses to violence,⁶⁵ in 25 of the families (52%) children were physically abused, in 6 families (11%) children were sexually abused, in 29 families (60%) were emotionally abused, 15 families (31%) experienced controlling behavior, and in 28 families (58%), children overheard violence.⁶⁶ The children gave many examples of emotional abuse, such as:

- Calling child a “little slut”;
- Telling child they “should have been an abortion”;
- Abusing the children’s pets;
- Deliberately breaking the children’s toys;
- Threatening to burn the house down;
- Telling the children their mother/grandmother doesn’t love them;
- Telling the children the mother was having an affair, had AIDS and was dying, and was a drug user.⁶⁷

In addition to emotional abuse, physical abuse was present in more than half of the families in the study. Hitting the children was the most common form of reported physical abuse, followed by throwing the children, throwing objects at children, and pushing children who were trying to protect their mothers out of the way. In addition, children were injured incidentally to the abuser’s attack against the mother, including a child who was burned when the abuser threw a kettle of boiling water at the mother.⁶⁸ Respondents in the study reported a variety of other physically abusive behaviors such as shaking a baby, strapping a child to a bed with a belt, pushing a child’s head into a dirty dishwasher, and dragging a child down stairs.⁶⁹

A variety of cruel and controlling behaviors were also reported in McGee’s study. Thirty-one percent of the families noted controlling behaviors that often mirrored abusers’ efforts to control mothers. Common controlling behaviors included not allowing children to play and

⁶⁵ *Id.* at 49.

⁶⁶ *Id.*

⁶⁷ *Id.* at 50-51.

⁶⁸ *Id.* at 53.

⁶⁹ *Id.*

confining children to certain areas of the home, including locking children in their rooms.⁷⁰ The abusers used a variety of intimidation tactics to control the children, including holding children and their mothers hostage, constantly staring at them, depriving children of sleep, telling children's friends not to talk to them, and stalking.⁷¹

Although respondents were not questioned about sexual abuse, sexual abuse was reported against 11% of the children in McGee's study. The children described the emotional abuse that accompanied the sexual abuse, and their fears about what would happen to them if they disclosed (often based on the abusers' explicit threats), and their fears about not being believed.⁷²

Given such graphic experiences by children, any custody process needs to incorporate the age-appropriate wishes of children.⁷³ More specifically, children expressing disinclination or outright rejection of a violent parent need to be respected, and their wishes honored.⁷⁴ Courts and evaluators can be too quick to second guess a child when voicing fear of and resistance to a parent, even where the parents has a documented history of violence. Courts listen to parents, but they should also endeavor to listen to children, as the determinations and custody arrangements arguably have greater effect on their lives.⁷⁵ Putting limits on parents' access to their children is always problematic; but one parent's violence toward children or the other parent needs to be taken into account. A presumption of JPC, however, does just the opposite, turning a blind eye to violence and treating all families as if they shared the same safe family relations.

⁷⁰ *Id.* at 54.

⁷¹ *Id.* at 55.

⁷² *Id.* at 56-57.

⁷³ Jaffe, et al., *supra* n. 36 at 510.

⁷⁴ *Id.*

⁷⁵ This is not typically the case. *See, e.g.* Judith Wallerstein & Julia M. Lewis, *Disparate Parenting and Step-Parenting with Siblings in the Post-Divorce Family: Report from a 10-Year Longitudinal Study*, 13 J. FAM. STUD. 224, 234 (2007) (explaining that "courts [are] reluctant to acknowledge the child's influential role...[and] have often thought of the child as a passive vessel for carrying one parent's agenda." The study's findings demonstrated that to the contrary, children often played a role independent from that of their parents).

Conclusion

Presumptive joint physical custody lacks the requisite foundation for sound public policy and errs on the side of risk instead of caution. Contrary to scientific evidence, the presumption is based on the faulty assumption that shared parenting is always in the best interest of the child, without regard to what is actually going on in the lives of the people directly affected. The most recent literature demonstrates that joint physical custody works best “in a small and distinct group of families, who self-select into [such] arrangements.”⁷⁶ Consequently, the presumption provides no benefit for those families who are best suited for JPC because those are the families who are most likely to choose it without court intervention. The presumption would only operate in cases least suited for JPC because those are the cases in which violence and conflict are most entrenched. While the presumption may offer some short-term administrative ease, it can lead to long-term administrative problems:

It stands to reason that custody decisions that are more formulaic and presumption-driven will leave litigants feeling that their individual circumstances have not been heard or considered. This result may have real consequences, including increased litigation, decreased post-decision involvement by the “losing parent,” and decreased compliance with court orders.⁷⁷

Most importantly, however, while presumptive JPC pays lip service to the best interest of the child, in actuality, it fails to account for the interests of the child altogether. In fact, the individual child does not factor into the equation at all. A presumption that ignores the safety and well-being of children, especially children who are at heightened risk of harm due to the presence of domestic violence, is bad public policy.

⁷⁶ McIntosh & Chisholm, *supra* n. 24 at 38.

⁷⁷ Greenberg et al., *supra* n. 11 at 163-64.

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Karen Karwocki

From: Nai Yares <ianyares@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2022 6:58 PM
To: ~House Children and Family Law Committee
Subject: On HB1651

I oppose HB165 on the grounds that Transgender Rights are more important than politicians, governments, churches, religions, corporations, and capital. I likewise state that any delayal, denial and/or violation of Transgender Rights must be held accountable through legal and/or illegal action insomuch as is required as to remove the capacity to insmirch upon the dignity of Transgender People everywhere.



NAMI New Hampshire

National Alliance on Mental Illness

February 15, 2022

Chair Kimberly Rice
 House Children and Family Law Committee
 Legislative Office Building, Room 206
 36 North State Street
 Concord, NH 03301

RE: NAMI New Hampshire’s Opposition to HB 1651

Dear Chair Rice and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Holly Stevens, and I am the Public Policy Director at NAMI New Hampshire, the National Alliance on Mental Illness. On behalf of NAMI NH, I am here to speak in opposition to HB 1651, adding sexual reassignment to the definition of child abuse.

Specifically, I am here to talk about the high risk for depression, suicide attempts and suicide death for trans people. By way of background, NAMI NH’s Connect Suicide Prevention Program has been designated as a National Best Practice in suicide prevention, intervention and postvention and has trained in over 40 states, and 35 tribal nations. The Connect program has also done briefings related to mental health and suicide prevention at the Pentagon, provided training for the Department of Defense (DOD) and presented in six countries. NAMI NH/Connect staff serve on numerous national and local workgroups and committees, including the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (NSPL), as well as New Hampshire’s legislatively established Suicide Prevention Council.

As the chart to the right indicates, suicide is the second leading cause of death for ages 10-34 in NH. Suicide deaths are the tip of the iceberg in contrast to suicide attempts. The human and economic impact of suicide deaths and attempts is significant.

A small but important subgroup of these statistics are people who are dealing with gender identity issues. There is an emerging body of research showing that trans people are likely to attempt suicide at alarmingly higher rates than their peers in the general population. Young people who are gender non-conforming are also at higher risk. A

Rank	Age Groups										All Ages
	<1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	
1	Short Gestation 33	Unintentional Injury 10	Malignant Neoplasms ---	Malignant Neoplasms 11	Unintentional Injury 921	Unintentional Injury 818	Unintentional Injury 542	Malignant Neoplasms 866	Malignant Neoplasms 2,622	Heart Disease 11,250	Malignant Neoplasms 13,938
2	Congenital Anomalies 29	Congenital Anomalies ---	Unintentional Injury ---	Suicide 11	Suicide 152	Suicide 182	Malignant Neoplasms 211	Unintentional Injury 608	Heart Disease 1,395	Malignant Neoplasms 10,137	Heart Disease 13,416
3	Maternal Pregnancy Comp. 15	Homicide ---	Homicide ---	Unintentional Injury ---	Heart Disease 20	Malignant Neoplasms 62	Suicide 195	Heart Disease 577	Unintentional Injury 454	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease 3,136	Unintentional Injury 4,469
4	Placenta Cord Membranes 15	Influenza & Pneumonia ---	Benign Neoplasms ---	Congenital Anomalies ---	Malignant Neoplasms 18	Heart Disease 49	Heart Disease 118	Suicide 272	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease 397	Alzheimer's Disease 2,267	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease 3,641
5	Respiratory Distress 10	Malignant Neoplasms ---	Congenital Anomalies ---	Benign Neoplasms ---	Homicide 14	Liver Disease 15	Liver Disease 58	Liver Disease 169	Diabetes Mellitus 277	Coronary Artery Disease 2,203	Coronary Artery Disease 2,486
6	Circulatory System Disease ---	Diabetes Mellitus ---	Heart Disease ---	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease ---	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease ---	Homicide 13	Diabetes Mellitus 31	Diabetes Mellitus 101	Liver Disease 277	Unintentional Injury 1,566	Alzheimer's Disease 2,296
7	Intrauterine Hypoxia ---	Heart Disease ---	Acute Bronchitis ---	Influenza & Pneumonia ---	Congenital Anomalies ---	Cerebrovascular 11	Homicide 25	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease 81	Suicide 223	Diabetes Mellitus 1,226	Diabetes Mellitus 1,646
8	Bacterial Sepsis ---	---	Diseases Of Appendix ---	Nephritis ---	Cerebrovascular ---	Congenital Anomalies ---	Cerebrovascular 17	Cerebrovascular 73	Cerebrovascular 175	Influenza & Pneumonia 1,070	Suicide 1,271
9	Unintentional Injury ---	---	---	Pneumonitis ---	Diabetes Mellitus ---	Diabetes Mellitus ---	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease 16	Septicemia 36	Nephritis 84	Nephritis 810	Influenza & Pneumonia 1,167
10	SIDS ---	---	---	---	Four Tied ---	Two Tied ---	Congenital Anomalies 11	Congenital Anomalies 24	Septicemia 83	Parkinson's Disease 786	Nephritis 926

Find Help, Find Hope.

2021 study indicated that people who undergo hormone therapy or gender affirming surgery had significant reductions in psychological distress including suicidal thoughts.

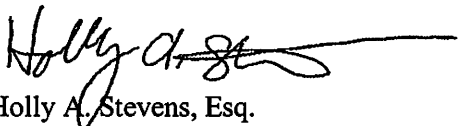
Previous studies on suicide rates of transgender people showed several unique risk factors contribute to the high rate of suicide in this population. These factors include, lack of family and social supports, gender-based discrimination, transgender-based abuse and violence, gender dysphoria and body-related shame, difficulty while undergoing gender reassignment, and being a member of another or multiple minority groups.

Adding hormone therapy and gender affirming surgery to the definition of child abuse takes away a parent's right to support their child as they see fit. As stated above, a lack of family supports contributes to increased risk of suicide in the young transgender population. If passed, HB 1651 would be harmful to the mental health of these individuals and, as indicated in the previously mentioned studies, is likely to increase risk for depression, suicide, and suicide attempts.

It is also important to note that while there are widely promoted articles and reports that a longitudinal study in Sweden showed suicide rates are higher after a person transitions, these are distortions of the study results. The author of the article *Reassignment Surgery: Cohort Study in Sweden* by Dr. Cecilia Dhejne has explicitly and repeatedly stated the study does not show medical transition results in suicide or suicidal ideation, nor does it demonstrate increased mortality and morbidity.

NAMI NH is committed to addressing suicide as a public health issue and reducing the incidence of suicide thoughts, attempts and deaths for all people in NH. We respectfully request that you vote this bill inexpedient to legislate. I am happy to answer any questions which you have.

Sincerely,



Holly A. Stevens, Esq.

Find Help, Find Hope.

NAMI New Hampshire • 85 North State Street • Concord, NH 03301
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advocate • educate • collaborate
to improve the health and wellness of all Granite Staters

February 15, 2022

The Honorable Kimberly Rice, Chair
House Children and Family Law
Legislative Office Building, Room LOB 206
33 North State Street
Concord, NH 03301

Re: New Futures’ opposition to HB 1651, adding sexual reassignment to the definition of child abuse

Dear Chairman Rice, and Honorable Members of the Committee:

New Futures appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition of HB 1651, adding sexual reassignment to the definition of child abuse.

New Futures is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that advocates, educates and collaborates to improve the health and wellness of all Granite Staters. New Futures is dedicated to supporting and strengthening a comprehensive and integrated System of Care for children and youth who experience behavioral health challenges in New Hampshire.

New Futures strongly opposes HB 1651 because it creates a disincentive for parents to seek medically necessary and potentially life-saving treatment for their children and youth by labeling treatment as abuse. HB 1651 also dampens the ability of families and medical professionals to use flexible, culturally competent, and gender-affirming approaches and treatments which may be necessary to support a child’s physical and mental health.

Gender reassignment therapy is not child abuse and HB 1651 would have far-reaching and devastating consequences to NH children and families. Some children express a great deal of distress about their assigned sex at birth or the gender roles they are expected to follow. Some children may even experience a condition known as “gender dysphoria”, a diagnostic criteria in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders-5 (“DSM-5”) reflecting the psychological distress that occurs due to gender and sex discord.¹ The condition of gender dysphoria is associated with clinically significant distress or impairment in social, school, or other areas of functioning.² Gender dysphoria ranges from manageable to debilitating, causing problems with school performance and social interactions.

¹ American Psychiatric Association. Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders: DSM-5. Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Association; 2013. In 2013, the DSM-5 was revised and gender identity disorder was changed to “gender dysphoria.”

² Id.


The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) strongly endorses the use of gender-affirming care when treating children.³ Depending on the child's age and signs of distress, "gender-affirmative" counseling or therapy can help manage gender dysphoria. However, in many cases, the remedy for dysphoria is gender transition: taking steps to affirm the gender that feels comfortable and authentic to the child. It is important to understand that, for children who have not reached puberty, gender transition involves no medical interventions at all: it consists of social changes like name, pronoun and gender expression.

Rejecting a child's gender identify and denying them gender-affirming care leaves them at an increased risk for depression, self-harm, isolation, posttraumatic stress, incarceration, homelessness, and suicidality.⁴ Suicidality is one of the most serious elevated health risks facing transgender people. Early intervention and treatment using gender-affirming approaches may alleviate psychological harm associated with gender dysphoria and lead to better physical and psychosocial outcomes. On the other hand, untreated gender dysphoria can drive depression, anxiety, social problems, school failure, self-harm and even suicide.⁵

Failing to support medically necessary treatment for transgender youth and families could lead to more costs to the State in the long run. We should be supporting our youth to achieve physical and mental well-being instead of creating barriers and dampening access to medically necessary treatment for a particularly vulnerable population.

For the reasons presented above, the New Futures strongly urges the committee to vote HB 1651 inexpedient to legislate.

Respectfully,



Emma Sevigny, Esq.
Children's Behavioral Health Policy Coordinator
New Futures, Inc.

³ See American Academy of Pediatrics Policy Statements available at <https://www.aap.org/en-us/about-the-aap/aap-press-room/Pages/AAP-Statement-in-Support-of-Transgender-Children-Adolescent-and-Young-Adults.aspx>.

⁴ "Understanding Gender Nonconformity in Childhood and Adolescence," Gender & Sex Development Program, Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, available at https://www.aap.org/en-us/Documents/solgbt_webinar_transition_garofalo.pdf.

⁵ See note 3 above.

James Marshall, Derry NH
HB1651
Oppose

House Children And Family Law Committee
Testimony Feb. 15, 2022

Hello,

My name is James Marshall and I live in Derry, NH. As a parent of a trans child I would like to vociferously **OPPOSE** this bill.

First I want to thank the members for reading this.

Being a parent in today's world is difficult, Government should **NOT** be adding to that burden. Having a child that is trans it is obvious that this is not a "choice", my son was extremely depressed before coming out to us. If we had not recognized the signs and handled this in the way WE, as parents, believed was right there is a significant chance that my son would be dead today¹. Treating parents who love their children and **want** their children to be alive is not a "lofty" ideal. Forcing parents to ignore the medical needs of their children is abhorrent and certainly not a "Christian" (or any other religious) ideal, passing this bill **will result in people dying** from suicide. Additionally such bigotted laws will cause, not only discrimination but, bullying from other children and (sadly) adults. This is yet again something the Government should be **avoiding**.

I started off by stating that as a parent of a trans child it is obvious that this is not a choice, and science agrees. Please research this issue, you will find that there is significant evidence that it is not a choice or phase².

This states motto is "Live Free, or Die", this law will cause death **AND** restrict freedom. I urge you to leave the parenting to parents!

James Marshall

¹ [New Study Reveals Shocking Rates of Attempted Suicide Among Trans Adolescents - HRC](#)

² [Science Just Proved That Being Transgender Is Not a Phase \(mic.com\)](#)

I Oppose HB1651

Hon. Representatives,

I Oppose HB1651.

How is this bill supported by science and medicine?

Please return HB1651 as inexpedient to legislate so that “all government of right originates from the people, is founded in consent, and instituted for the general good.”

And use science and medicine rather than ideology and fear to propose bills about the nature of people.

Respectfully,

Len

Leonard Campbell
Meredith, NH
603-455-1105

As the parent of a transgender child, who is now legally an adult but who started hormone treatments as a juvenile, I categorically oppose this bill.

The language “subjected to drug treatments or surgery” is offensive. No child is “subjected” to such treatment. My son had to undergo several years of mental health counseling, obtain the written recommendation of his counselor, and pass rigorous questioning and examination by a pediatric endocrinologist before the hormone treatment that he wanted was prescribed for him. It has made a tremendous difference in his mental and emotional well being and we are grateful that it was available to him. Does this sound like abuse?

Who is better able to make thoughtful decisions for the care of a child...their parents and medical professionals with knowledge and experience of the individual and professional standards of care? Or lawmakers with no such knowledge and experience?

There are unfortunately lots of children in New Hampshire who face actual child abuse and need the support of the law and the criminal justice system. They do not include children like my son. Seeking medical treatment for a medically diagnosed condition is not abuse.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Greetings Children and Family Law Committee Members,

I am writing to you in regard to HB1651. I am a licensed clinical psychologist residing and practicing in Concord, NH. I specialize in providing mental health services for transgender children and adolescents. I follow the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH) Standards of Care in providing these specialized services. WPATH sets the healthcare standards for transgender children, adolescents, and adults. I also provide services in accordance with the ethical codes and guidelines for transgender healthcare set forth by the American Psychological Association.

I strongly request that you oppose HB1651. This bill would cause harm and devastate families by increasing the risk of mental health problems for transgender youth who require medical care. HB1651 interferes with the rights of parents to access healthcare that could save the life of their child. Research demonstrates that access to gender affirming medical care decreases rates of depression, suicidal thoughts, and suicidal attempts in transgender youth. Please see here for further information: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/dawnstaceyennis/2021/12/14/gender-affirming-care-linked-to-less-depression-lower-suicide-risk-for-trans-youth/?sh=670e70dd5d25>

The truth is that HB1651 itself would be child abuse. Denying needed medical treatment is medical neglect and can cause serious harm to youth. No law should be made that is abusive to children.

Establishing this bill would further exacerbate the already overwhelming mental health crisis we face in New Hampshire by increasing the risk of depression and suicidality in transgender youth. This would overburden our already strained mental healthcare system.

In accordance with WPATH guidelines, gender affirming medical care is provided to transgender youth only after thorough, careful assessment by the treatment team made up of specially trained medical professionals, mental health professionals, and the youth's parents. This medical care is provided only when a youth has demonstrated consistence and persistence in their gender identity and when this care would provide a benefit to the health of the youth. The criteria for each medical treatment are precise and specific to that treatment. You are welcome to read the Standards of Care for further detail: <https://www.wpath.org/publications/soc>

WPATH is currently revising and updating the Standards of Care. There may be changes to the Standards based on the latest medical research. It is important that healthcare providers have the ability to shift care as needed in order to continue to provide the highest quality healthcare without infringement on their practice or on the rights of consumers by the government. Please OPPOSE HB 1651. Again, no law should be made that is abusive to children.

Sincerely,

Erin R. Sandler, Psy.D.
Licensed Clinical Psychologist, License #1441
pronouns: she, her, hers



Julie Püttgen, LCMHC, REAT, SEP, MFA
Center for Integrative Health ✪ 45 Lyme Road ✪ Suite 200 ✪ Hanover, NH 03755
(802) 727 0494 ✪ horsefox@108namesofnow.com

February 15, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

As a Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor in the State of NH who works with transgender and gender nonconforming youth and adults, I am writing to OPPOSE HB1651. The language and intent of the bill are utterly perverse. Gender-affirmation treatment initiated by a trans-person's desire to live authentically is NOT child abuse. In fact, it is often life-saving. As one client recently shared with me, "I told my parents that they had the choice between a dead daughter and a living son." The choice to start hormone treatment in his teens has made all the difference for this bright, thoughtful young person.

Sincerely,

15 February 2022

Dear Committee of Children and Family Law,

I am writing in opposition to HB 1651, “AN ACT adding sexual reassignment to the definition of child abuse.” This bill appears to invite legislators to directly interfere with personal medical decisions with neither the individual details nor the medical expertise to be involved in these discussions.

Long-term studies of the effects of gender reassignment or puberty suppression (or lack thereof) indicate that these treatments do not disrupt brain development, a commonly cited concern, but have the potential to significantly improve psychosocial outcomes for gender dysphoric children. The reference included below is a review article which describes a number of longitudinal studies on the topic, and while more research is needed, they state that early reports on outcomes are promising.

Ultimately, the procedures described in this bill are medical procedures, and as such the decision belongs to the patient, their legal guardian(s), and their doctor. As this bill comes to review alongside HB 1077 (also sponsored by Representative Testerman), which seeks to overturn the ban on conversion therapy for minors (which has been proven to have serious and lasting negative effects on those exposed to it), I cannot help but question whether the motivation here is truly to protect children, or simply another angle of attack on the LGBTQ+ community. Please do not allow this to go through.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Rubinstein

References

- [1] Johannes Fuss, Matthias K. Auer, and Peer Briken. Gender dysphoria in children and adolescents: a review of recent research. *Current Opinion in Psychiatry*, 28(6):430–434, November 2015.

Archived: Thursday, February 24, 2022 3:52:10 PM
From: [Wallace Heath](#)
Sent: Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:48:46 AM
To: [~House Children and Family Law Committee](#)
Subject: Gb1431
Importance: Normal

I ask your support and approval of this bill!! Thank you _ Wallace j heath, 2 Copps hill rd., windham, nh. 693 8934165

Archived: Thursday, February 24, 2022 3:52:10 PM
From: [Alfred Lafferty](#)
Sent: Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:18:24 AM
To: [~House Children and Family Law Committee](#)
Subject: Please Support HB 1531.
Importance: Normal

Thanks for your service to we the people from Al Lafferty voter and long time resident of Windham NH

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, February 24, 2022 3:52:10 PM
From: [Barbara Koehler](#)
Sent: Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:13:23 AM
To: [~House Children and Family Law Committee](#)
Subject: Bill HB1431
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members,

Please support this bill that puts the responsibilities and decision making back into parents hands where it belongs. If we can't decide what is good for our children and give up that right, then we have given up our country's future to others!!

Thanks for the work you are doing,

Barbara Koehler, Moultonborough

Archived: Thursday, February 24, 2022 3:52:11 PM
From: [Kathy Wolfson](#)
Sent: Wednesday, February 9, 2022 8:50:25 AM
To: [~House Children and Family Law Committee](#)
Subject: Please support HB1431
Importance: Normal

I am in favor of parents having more say and control over their children's education. Please support HB1431.

Kathy Wolfson
Nashua NH

HB 1651-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2022 SESSION

22-2127
07/05

HOUSE BILL ***1651-FN***

AN ACT adding sexual reassignment to the definition of child abuse.

SPONSORS: Rep. Testerman, Merr. 2

COMMITTEE: Children and Family Law

ANALYSIS

This bill adds sexual reassignment to the definition of an abused child in RSA 169-C, the child protection act.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Two

AN ACT adding sexual reassignment to the definition of child abuse.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Definition of Abused Child; Sexual Reassignment Added. Amend RSA 169-C:3, II(f) to read as
2 follows:

3 (f) Subjected to an act prohibited by RSA 632-A:10-d; **or**

4 (g) ***Subjected to drug treatments or surgery in an attempt to alter the sex of the***
5 ***child assigned at birth, except in rare cases of ambiguous genitalia. For purposes of this***
6 ***subparagraph, ambiguous genitalia refers to a medical condition in which a child's***
7 ***gender at birth is in question because the genitals do not appear clearly male or female.***

8 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2023.

**HB 1651-FN- FISCAL NOTE
AS INTRODUCED**

AN ACT adding sexual reassignment to the definition of child abuse.

FISCAL IMPACT: State County Local None

STATE:	Estimated Increase / (Decrease)			
	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Appropriation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Expenditures	\$0	Indeterminable Increase	Indeterminable Increase	Indeterminable Increase
Funding Source:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Highway	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

COUNTY:

Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Expenditures	\$0	Indeterminable Increase	Indeterminable Increase	Indeterminable Increase

METHODOLOGY:

This bill adds sexual reassignment to the definition of an abused child under RSA 169-C, the Child Protection Act. The Department of Health and Human Services states that it does not have any information to assess the potential fiscal impact. To the extent that the bill results in additional child abuse cases, it may increase costs to the state judicial and correctional systems. There is no method to determine how many charges might be brought as a result of the bill. However, the entities impacted have provided the potential costs associated with criminal penalties below:

Judicial Council	FY 2022	FY 2023
Public Defender Program	Has contract with State to provide services.	Has contract with State to provide services.
Contract Attorney – Felony	\$825/Case	\$825/Case
Contract Attorney – Misdemeanor	\$300/Case	\$300/Case
Assigned Counsel – Misdemeanor	\$60/Hour up to \$1,400	\$60/Hour up to \$1,400

It should be noted that a person needs to be found indigent and have the potential of being incarcerated to be eligible for indigent defense services. Historically, approximately 85% of the indigent defense caseload has been handled by the public defender program, with the remaining cases going to contract attorneys (14%) or assigned counsel (1%). Beginning in March of 2021, the public defender program has had to close intake to new cases due to excessive caseloads. Due to these closures, the contract and assigned counsel

program have had to absorb significantly more cases. The system is experiencing significant delays in appointing counsel and the costs of representation have increased due to travel time and multiple appointments.		
Department of Corrections	FY 2022	FY 2023
FY 2021 Average Cost of Incarcerating an Individual	\$54,386	\$54,386
FY 2021 Annual Marginal Cost of a General Population Inmate	\$5,715	\$5,715
FY 2021 Average Cost of Supervising an Individual on Parole/Probation	\$603	\$603
NH Association of Counties	FY 2022	FY 2023
County Prosecution Costs	Indeterminable	Indeterminable
Estimated Average Daily Cost of Incarcerating an Individual	\$105 to \$125	\$105 to \$125

In addition, there may be an indeterminable fiscal impact to the Judicial Branch. In the past the Judicial Branch has used averaged caseload data based on time studies to estimate the fiscal impact of proposed legislation. The per case data on costs for routine criminal cases currently available to the Judicial Branch are based on studies of judicial and clerical weighted caseload times for processing average routine criminal cases that are more than fifteen years old so the data does not have current validity. A new case study is being conducted and updated estimates will be available in the future.

Many offenses are prosecuted by local and county prosecutors. When the Department of Justice has investigative and prosecutorial responsibility or is involved in an appeal, the Department may be able to absorb the cost within its existing budget. However, if the Department needs to prosecute significantly more cases or handle more appeals, then costs will increase by an indeterminable amount.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Justice, Judicial Branch, Judicial Council and New Hampshire Association of Counties