

To the Attention of:

Senator Thune, Speaker of the Senate

Senator Schumer, Minority Leader

Senator Barrasso, Majority Whip

Senator Durbin, Minority Whip & Ranking Member
of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary

Senator Grassley, Chair Senate Committee on the
Judiciary

March 19, 2026

RE: Opposition to the Criminalization of Medically Necessary Healthcare for Trans and Gender-Diverse Adolescents

Dear esteemed Members of the Senate,

The undersigned 167 organizations, which constitute a broad and unified coalition of civil rights, health equity, and gender justice advocates, write to express our **unequivocal opposition to the passage of Marjorie Taylor Greene's *Protect Children's Innocence Act***. Although this bill purports to “protect children,” it instead persecutes transgender, intersex, gender-diverse youth and their providers, with potentially devastating consequences. If passed, **this legislation would expose tens of thousands of transgender and gender diverse youth to immense psychological suffering and increased risk of suicidality**. Violation of this extreme bill would result in severe financial penalties and imprisonment of up to ten years—or both—for providers delivering this lifesaving, essential healthcare to transgender and gender diverse patients.

Enacting a law that would endanger the lives of tens of thousands of adolescents, as this bill would, is both unconscionable and unjustifiable. This bill does not protect children. Instead, it polices identities and criminalizes the practice of safe pediatric medicine. We therefore call upon all Senators to oppose this bill's passage and **VOTE NO, for the safety of transgender and intersex youth, for the rights of providers to care for their patients, and the rights of parents to support their children in accessing the care they need.**

H.R.3492 is extreme, overreaching, and explicitly discriminatory. This bill distorts Sec. 116 of Title 18 of the U.S. Code, which prohibits Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), to criminalize the provision of consensual, safe, and medically necessary transition-related healthcare (also called gender-affirming healthcare) while carving out an exception so that adolescents who are not trans can receive the same treatments. At the same time, this bill endorses the performance of non-consensual and unnecessary surgeries on intersex infants. This bill's discriminatory objectives are clear: its objective is to enforce conformity with rigid, outdated, and unscientific stereotypes of sex and gender¹ and to dictate providers' ability to care for their patients based on patients' alignment with those stereotypes.

This legislation misrepresents the field of medicine that this bill intends to criminalize: pediatric transition-related healthcare. This bill uses the same medically inaccurate and fear-mongering terminology found in President Trump's Executive Order 14167. H.R. 3492 misleads the public about what transition-related care

¹ Claire Ainsworth, *Sex Redefined: The Idea of 2 Sexes Is Overly Simplistic*, SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN (Oct. 22, 2018), <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/sex-redefined-the-idea-of-2-sexes-is-overly-simplistic/>; Max Barnhart, *Scientists Reject a Binary View of Human Sex at NIH Symposium*, CHEMICAL & ENGINEERING NEWS (Oct. 20, 2024), <https://cen.acs.org/biological-chemistry/genomics/Scientists-reject-binary-view-human/102/i33>; Kate Clancy et al., *Biology Is Not Binary*, AMERICAN SCIENTIST (Feb. 5, 2024), <https://www.americanscientist.org/article/biology-is-not-binary>; Agustín Fuentes, *Here's Why Human Sex Is Not Binary*, SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN (2023), <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/heres-why-human-sex-is-not-binary/>.

entails, using language that stokes fear rather than reflecting medical reality: that pediatric transition-related healthcare is safe and supported by decades of clinical evidence²

Make no mistake that, point for point, **every claim made within this bill regarding this long-standing and evidence-based field of medicine is refuted by a robust body of evidence**, which has been drawn from over four decades of this care's provision to transgender and gender-diverse adolescents.³ Countless studies and systematic reviews have concluded that this lifesaving care not only reduces rates of suicidality and depression but also improves life satisfaction and psychosocial functioning amongst transgender and gender-diverse adolescents.⁴ These treatments are safe, and they are the same as those provided to adolescents who are not transgender, a purpose for which many of these treatments have received FDA approval.

Healthcare decisions should be made by patients, their families, and trained medical experts, who undergo nearly a decade of education and training to exercise good judgment in supporting patients' needs. As our elected representatives, it is your responsibility to protect the interests, rights, and well-being of your constituents. They expect you to oppose this discriminatory bill, which does nothing to address the actual needs of people across the country whose health and economic well-being are at risk. We call upon all Senators to honor their duties to their constituents, including tens of thousands of trans youths and their families, by **Voting No on this discriminatory bill**.

² JULIAN GILL-PETERSON, HISTORIES OF THE TRANSGENDER CHILD (2018); Kara N Ingelhart, *BRIEF OF AMICI CURIAE AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION, ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN HISTORIANS, LGBTQ+ HISTORY ASSOCIATION, AND HISTORIAN SCHOLARS IN SUPPORT OF PETITIONER AND RESPONDENTS IN SUPPORT OF PETITIONER* (2024); Stephanie L. Budge et al., *Gender Affirming Care Is Evidence Based for Transgender and Gender-Diverse Youth*, 75 J. ADOLESC. HEALTH 851 (2024); Jeremi M. Carswell, Ximena Lopez & Stephen M. Rosenthal, *The Evolution of Adolescent Gender-Affirming Care: An Historical Perspective*, 95 HORM. RES. PAEDIATR. 649 (2022); UTAH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, SYSTEMATIC MEDICAL EVIDENCE REVIEW OF HORMONAL TRANSGENDER TREATMENT REPORT (2025), <https://le.utah.gov/AgencyRP/reportingDetail.jsp?rid=636>.

³ Jeremi M. Carswell, Ximena Lopez & Stephen M. Rosenthal, *The Evolution of Adolescent Gender-Affirming Care: An Historical Perspective*, 95 HORM. RES. PAEDIATR. 649 (2022); Kara N Ingelhart, *BRIEF OF AMICI CURIAE AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION, ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN HISTORIANS, LGBTQ+ HISTORY ASSOCIATION, AND HISTORIAN SCHOLARS IN SUPPORT OF PETITIONER AND RESPONDENTS IN SUPPORT OF PETITIONER* (2024); JULIAN GILL-PETERSON, HISTORIES OF THE TRANSGENDER CHILD (2018); Stephanie L. Budge et al., *Gender Affirming Care Is Evidence Based for Transgender and Gender-Diverse Youth*, 75 J. ADOLESC. HEALTH 851 (2024); Guy T'Sjoen et al., *Endocrinology of Transgender Medicine*, 40 ENDOCR. REV. 97 (2019); COURTNEY FINLAYSON, PUBERTAL SUPPRESSION IN TRANSGENDER YOUTH (2019); Hane Htut Maung, *Gender Affirming Hormone Treatment for Trans Adolescents: A Four Principles Analysis*, 21 J. BIOETHICAL INQ. 345 (2024); Simona Giordano & Søren Holm, *Is Puberty Delaying Treatment 'Experimental Treatment'?*, 21 INT. J. TRANSGENDER HEALTH 113 (2020); Francois Brezin et al., *Endocrine Management of Transgender Adolescents: Expert Consensus of the French Society of Pediatric Endocrinology and Diabetology Working Group*, ARCH. PÉDIATRIE (2024), <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0929693X24001763>; Bragge et al., *Evidence for Effective Interventions for Children and Young People with Gender Dysphoria—Update | Sax Institute*, [HTTPS://WWW.SAXINSTITUTE.ORG.AU/](https://www.saxinstitute.org.au/) (2024), <https://www.saxinstitute.org.au/resource/evidence-for-effective-interventions-for-children-and-young-people-with-gender-dysphoria-update/>; UTAH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, SYSTEMATIC MEDICAL EVIDENCE REVIEW OF HORMONAL TRANSGENDER TREATMENT REPORT (2025), <https://le.utah.gov/AgencyRP/reportingDetail.jsp?rid=636>.

⁴ Jaclyn M. W. Hughto et al., *Social and Medical Gender Affirmation Experiences Are Inversely Associated with Mental Health Problems in a U.S. Non-Probability Sample of Transgender Adults*, 49 ARCH. SEX. BEHAV. 2635 (2020); UTAH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, SYSTEMATIC MEDICAL EVIDENCE REVIEW OF HORMONAL TRANSGENDER TREATMENT REPORT (2025), <https://le.utah.gov/AgencyRP/reportingDetail.jsp?rid=636>; Diana M. Tordoff et al., *Mental Health Outcomes in Transgender and Nonbinary Youths Receiving Gender-Affirming Care*, 5 JAMA NETW. OPEN e220978 (2022); Jack L. Turban et al., *Access to Gender-Affirming Hormones during Adolescence and Mental Health Outcomes among Transgender Adults*, 17 PLOS ONE e0261039 (2022); Jack L. Turban et al., *Pubertal Suppression for Transgender Youth and Risk of Suicidal Ideation*, 145 PEDIATRICS e20191725 (2020); Rosalia Costa et al., *Psychological Support, Puberty Suppression, and Psychosocial Functioning in Adolescents with Gender Dysphoria*, 12 J. SEX. MED. 2206 (2015); Luke R. Allen et al., *Well-Being and Suicidality Among Transgender Youth After Gender-Affirming Hormones*, 7 CLIN. PRACT. PEDIATR. PSYCHOL. 302 (2019); Kellan E Baker et al., *Hormone Therapy, Mental Health, and Quality of Life Among Transgender People: A Systematic Review*, 5 J. ENDOCR. SOC. bvab011 (2021); Annelou L. C. de Vries et al., *Young Adult Psychological Outcome after Puberty Suppression and Gender Reassignment*, 134 PEDIATRICS 696 (2014); Amy E. Green et al., *Association of Gender-Affirming Hormone Therapy With Depression, Thoughts of Suicide, and Attempted Suicide Among Transgender and Nonbinary Youth*, 70 J. ADOLESC. HEALTH OFF. PUBL. SOC. ADOLESC. MED. 643 (2022); Anna I. R. van der Miesen et al., *Psychological Functioning in Transgender Adolescents Before and After Gender-Affirmative Care Compared With Cisgender General Population Peers*, 66 J. ADOLESC. HEALTH 699 (2020); Julia C. Sorbara et al., *Mental Health and Timing of Gender-Affirming Care*, 146 PEDIATRICS e20193600 (2020); Gianluca Tornese et al., *Use of Gonadotropin-Releasing Hormone Agonists in Transgender and Gender Diverse Youth: A Systematic Review*, 16 FRONT. ENDOCRINOL. (2025), <https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/endocrinology/articles/10.3389/fendo.2025.1555186/full>; Alessandra D Fisher et al., *Back to the Future: Is GnRH Treatment in Transgender and Gender Diverse Adolescents Only an Extended Evaluation Phase?*, 109 J. CLIN. ENDOCRINOL. METAB. 1565 (2024).

With Respect,

Advocates for Trans Equality
603 Equality

AAUW California

Abortion Forward

Access Reproductive Justice

Advocates for Youth

AFFA Action

AIDS United

AJL Community Health LLC

All* Above All

Alliance For TransYouth Rights

American Atheists

Amnesty International USA

Arkansas Black Gay Men's
Forum

Association of Latinos/as/xs
Motivating Action

Aunt Rita's Foundation

Autistic Self Advocacy
Network

Autistic Women & Nonbinary
Network

Basic Rights Oregon

Bend the Arc: Jewish Action

CA LGBTQ Health and Human
Services Network

California Nurse-Midwives
Association

California Women's Law Center

Callen-Lorde Community
Health Center

Campaign for Southern
Equality

Center for Biological Diversity

Center for Constitutional Rights

Center for Reproductive Rights

CenterLink

Central Coast Coalition for
Inclusive Schools

Central Valley NOW

Chosen Family Law Center

Citizen Action/Illinois

Clearinghouse on Women's
Issues

Colorado Consumer Health
Initiative

Colorado Trans+Autistic Peer
Support Group

Community Catalyst

Concern for Integrated
Development

Council for Global Equality

Disability Culture Lab

Disability Rights California

Disability Rights Education and
Defense Fund (DREDF)

Eastern PA Trans Equity Project

EmpowerMT

Equality California

Equality Federation

Equality Florida

Equality Illinois

Equality Michigan Action
Network

Equality Ohio

Equality Maine

Equality Virginia

Fair Wisconsin

Fairness Campaign

Families USA

Family Equality

Female-To-Male International,
Inc. (FTMI)

Feminist Majority Foundation

Fluxx Productions

Freedom

Freedom, Inc.

Gender Justice

Gender Justice LA

Gender Liberation Movement

GenderNexus

Georgia Equality

GLBTQ Legal Advocates and
Defenders (GLAD Law)

GLMA: Health Professionals
Advancing LGBTQ+ Equality

Guttmacher Institute

Health Action New Mexico

Ibis Reproductive Health

If/When/How: Lawyering for
Reproductive Justice

Indivisible

Inter African Committee

interACT: Advocates for Intersex Youth	National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice	Physicians for Reproductive Health
IYG (Indiana Youth Group)	National LGBTQ Task Force Action Fund	Point of Pride
Jacobs Institute of Women's Health	National LGBTQ+ Bar Association	Portland Outright
Kentucky Equal Justice Center	National LGBTQI+ Cancer Network	Positive Women's Network-USA
Lawyering Project Inc.	National Network of Abortion Funds	Pride at Work – Hawai‘i
Lawyers for Good Government	National Organization for Women	Pride At Work, AFL-CIO
Legal Action Center	National Partnership for Women & Families	PROMO Missouri
Legal Council for Health Justice	National Women's Law Center	Public Justice Center
Legal Voice	National Black Justice Coalition	Queer Birth Project
LGBTQ SAVES	Nebraska Appleseed	Reproductive Freedom for All
Los Angeles LGBT Center	New Disabled South	Reproductive Justice Action Collective
Lyon-Martin Community Health Services	NIRH Action Fund	Rocky Mountain Equality
Make the Road New York	North Shore Alliance of GLBTQ+ Youth (NAGLY)	Sacramento LGBT Community Center
MassEquality	Northwest Health Law Advocates	SAGE
Ministry of lands	Oasis Legal Services	Sahiyo U.S. Inc.
Minority Veterans of America	One Colorado	Silver State Equality
Movement Advancement Project	OutFront Minnesota	SiX Action
National Abortion Federation	OutSupport, Inc.	Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i
National Center for Law and Economic Justice	Pennsylvania Youth Congress	The California LGBTQ Health and Human Services Network
National Center for LGBTQ Rights	People Power United	The Fenway Institute
National Council of Jewish Women	Peoria Proud	The Houston Intersex Society
National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association	PFLAG Sacramento	The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights
National Health Law Program	PFLAG San Jose/Peninsula	The Legal Aid Society (New York City)
		The Source LGBT+ Center

The Spectrum Center of
Hattiesburg

The TransLatin@ Coalition

The U.S. End FGM/C Network

The Women's Building

Trans Maryland

Trans Youth Equality
Foundation

Transathlete

TransCentralPA

TransFamily Support Services

Transgender Law Center

Transgender Michigan

Transgender Resource Center of
New Mexico

Transgender Resource,
Advocacy & Network Service

Transhealth

TransOhio

TransVisible Montana

UCSF Bixby Center for Global
Reproductive Health

Uniting Pride

URGE: Unite for Reproductive
& Gender Equity

Wanda Alston Foundation

WeSpeakOut

William E. Morris Institute for
Justice

Women's Health Center of
Maryland

Women's Health Center of West
Virginia

Youth MOVE National

Youth Outlook