LB 574: Gender Affirming Care Ban

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT AND HOW TO PROVIDE COMMENTS ON PROPOSED REGULATIONS

In May 2023, the Nebraska Legislature passed LB 574 restricting gender affirming care for people under 19 in our state. The bill requires Nebraska's Chief Medical Officer (CMO) to develop the specific regulations for receiving gender affirming care by October 1, 2023. On this day, the CMO issued temporary Emergency Regulations while developing permanent regulations. The proposed permanent regulations can be found online at https://www.nebraska.gov/nesos/rules-and-regs/regtrack/proposals/2703.pdf.

WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

The proposed permanent regulations are required to have a public hearing before being adopted. This is your final chance to weigh in on those regulations either in-person at the hearing on **Tuesday, November 28** or by submitting written comments. All public feedback will be reviewed by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) before adopting permanent regulations. **The proposed regulations are subject to change based on public input before becoming permanent.**

WHY YOUR CONTINUED INVOLVEMENT MATTERS

Regulatory hearings give legitimacy to this discriminatory and restrictive legislation that inserts politics into Nebraskans' health care. The drafted regulations prioritize a commitment to discriminate against trans youth and add excessive regulations to life-saving care in addition to increasing the financial burden for patients and their families.

Gender affirming care is a medically-established best practice that is recognized and endorsed by leading medical groups as a medical necessity of treatments.

This is the final opportunity to use your voice to oppose political interference into health care in our state. It's time to join together and make our state a place where we are all free to live, work and support each other for who we are.

HOW TO PROVIDE INPUT

SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS

If you can't attend in person, you can submit written comments **now through 11:59 pm on November 28.**

Written comments can be submitted through:

- Mail: DHHS Legal Services, PO Box 95026, Lincoln, NE 68509
- Fax: 402-742-2382
- Email: <u>DHHS.Regulations@Nebraska.gov</u>

TESTIFY IN PERSON

The public hearing is on **Tuesday, November 28 from 7:00 am** - **7:00 pm** at the Lancaster County Event Center - Lincoln Room (4100 N 84th Street, Lincoln NE 68507). There is a three minute time-limit. Prepare for this to be reduced to two minutes and bring at least one printed copy of your remarks to provide to DHHS.

WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT TESTIFYING

- It will be a really long day. Bring a water bottle. Snacks and support will be available.
- There is no sign-in sheet. Anyone who wishes to give in-person testimony will stand in a line to wait their turn.
- The committee will not ask questions.

Auxiliary aids or reasonable accommodations needed to participate can be requested by calling 402-471-8417. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing may call DHHS via the Nebraska Relay System at 711 or 800-833-7352 at least two weeks prior to the hearing. Additional FAQs on the public hearing are available from DHHS at <u>https://dhhs.</u> ne.gov/Documents/Let-Them-Grow-Act-Public-Hearing-FAQ.pdf.



For additional information, contact Policy Director Erin Feichtinger at <u>EFeichtinger@OmahaWomensFund.org</u> or 402-827-9280.