

Family Policy Institute
OF WASHINGTON

REGISTER YOUR POSITION



DEFENDERS IN ACTION

TOGETHER WE WILL

DEFEND & ADVANCE

BIBLICAL VALUES IN **THE PUBLIC SQUARE**

— ACTION —
DEFENDER
SERIES

BRAD PAYNE
P. BRIAN NOBLE



REGISTER YOUR POSITION

Do you want to let your voice be heard in the Legislative Branch? Emailing your elected official is **good**, but registering your position is **better**. It allows your legislator to hear your voice **officially**.

Learn how to:

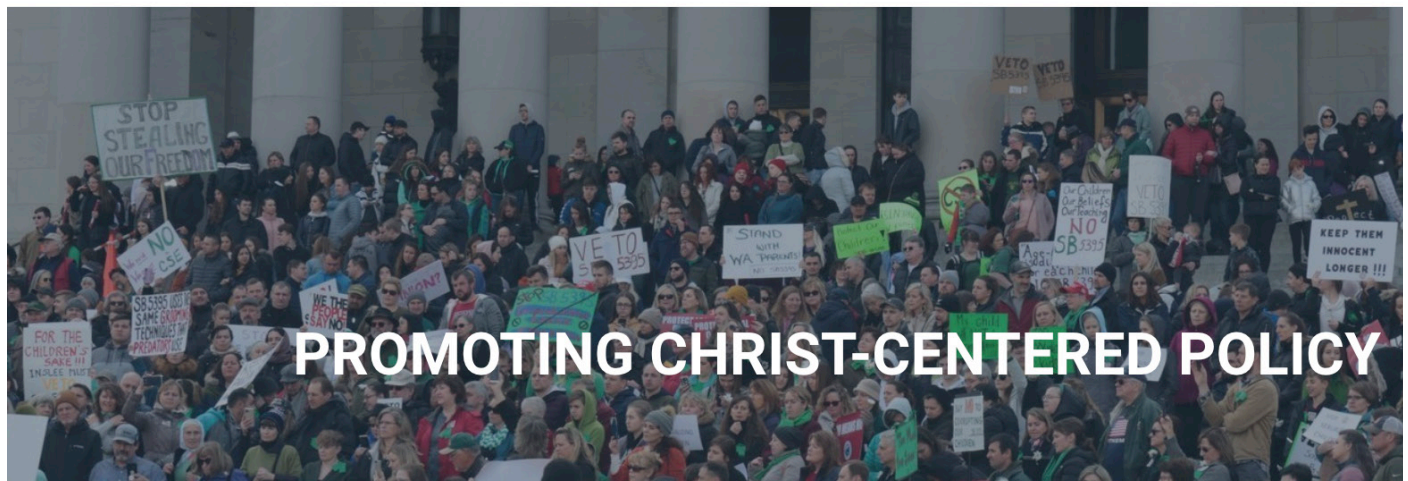
Register Your Position

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GO TO THE WEBSITE AT: FPIW.ORG



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STEP
02

CLICK THE MOST RECENT LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



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STEP 03

(A): READ FPIW'S VIEW

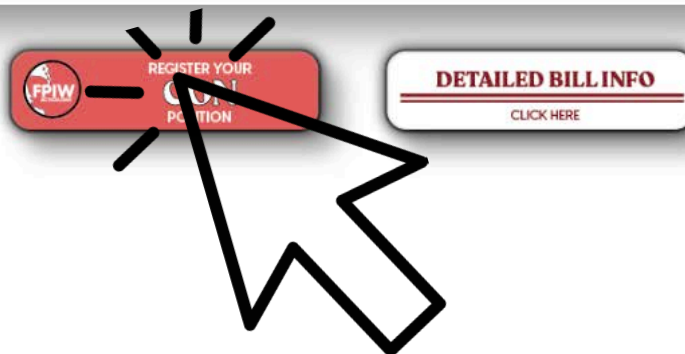
(B): TO REGISTER YOUR POSITION, CLICK THE
BUTTON "PRO" OR "CON"

REGISTER YOUR POSITION

FPIW
DEFENDERS
TAKE ACTION

HB 1589 *RESPONSE NEEDED BY: IMMEDIATELY*

HB 1589 — This bill would prohibit gas companies from connecting natural gas lines to new construction. Even worse, gas companies will no longer be obligated to provide natural gas service to existing customers. We are encouraging every one to write a very brief note to your district legislators asking them to please do everything within their power to kill this bill. You can also note in your email that this bill would require homeowners currently using gas to undergo unaffordable conversions to electricity within their homes, overburden our electrical grid, and unjustly benefit PSE with even greater profits. To equip yourself with more arguments, see the video below. **Use the CON button to find your district and legislators, complete the contact information, register your opposition to this bill, and provide any written comments you wish to convey.**





STEP 04

REGISTER YOUR POSITION

Committee Sign In - Legislative Record

Complete the fields below and press submit to state your position on a bill without testifying.

Committee: Human Services, Youth, & Early Learning

Date/Time: 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

Bill/Issue: ESSB 5599 Protected health care/youth

Location: House Hearing Rm D and Virtual

Required fields are marked with an asterisk (*).

This system is used as a roster to show who has registered and wishes to state their position on a bill. The information you provide will be made available to legislative committee members and staff of the committee, and will be included in the legislative record for bill and meeting archival purposes. Please ensure your information is accurate.

The roster is a legislative record maintained under chapter 40.14 RCW (Preservation and Destruction of Public Records) and subject to public disclosure under chapter 42.56 RCW (Public Records Act).

***Position:**

Please Select

***Position:**

✓ Please Select

Pro

Con

Other

STEP 05

(A): COMPLETE ALL FIELDS IN THE FORM
(B): ORGANIZATION: FPIW DEFENDER

***First Name:**

***Last Name:**

***Email:**

Use only your own email address

Organization:

If you are testifying as an official representative on behalf of a particular organization, please specify:

FPIW DEFENDER

Address:

***City:**


***State:**

***Zip:**

***Phone (e.g. 360-555-0123):**

**STEP
06****CHECK "I'M NOT A ROBOT"**

☐ I'm not a robot


reCAPTCHA
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**STEP
07****CLICK "SUBMIT REGISTRATION"**

By clicking 'Submit Registration', you acknowledge you have read and agree that the information you provided is accurate. After submitting, it may not be possible to edit your information.

Submit Registration

Cancel



SENATE BILL REPORT

ESSB 5599

As Amended by House, April 12, 2023

Title: An act relating to supporting youth and young adults seeking protected health care services.

Brief Description: Supporting youth and young adults seeking protected health care services.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Human Services (originally sponsored by Senators Liias, Wilson, C., Dhingra, Lovelett, Nguyen and Randall).

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Human Services: 2/06/23, 2/14/23 [DPS, DNP].

Floor Activity: Passed Senate: 3/1/23, 27-19.

Passed House: 4/12/23, 57-39.

Brief Summary of Engrossed First Substitute Bill

- Provides that a licensed shelter for runaway or homeless youth does not need to contact the youth's parents if there is a compelling reason not to, which includes a youth seeking protected health services.
- Allows host homes to house youth without parental permission if a youth is seeking or receiving protected health care services.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Majority Report: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5599 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.

Signed by Senators Wilson, C., Chair; Kauffman, Vice Chair; Frame and Nguyen.

Minority Report: Do not pass.

Signed by Senators Boehnke, Ranking Member; Warnick and Wilson, J..

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Staff: Alison Mendiola (786-7488)

Background: Youth Shelters. If a licensed overnight shelter or licensed organization provides services to homeless or runaway youth and their families, shelters a youth and knows that the child is away from home without parental permission, it must contact the youth's parents within 72 hours, but preferably in 24 hours. If there are compelling reasons to not notify the parents, the shelter or organization is to contact the Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) instead. Compelling reasons include, but are not limited to circumstances that indicate notifying the parent or legal guardian will subject the minor to abuse or neglect.

Host Homes. A host home program operated by a tax exempt organization for youth not in the care of or receiving services from DCYF does the following:

- recruits and screens potential homes in the program, including performing background checks on individuals over the age of 18 residing in the home, through the Washington State Patrol or equivalent law enforcement agency, and performs physical inspections of the home;
- obtains a notarized permission slip or limited power of attorney from the parent or legal guardian of the youth, authorizing the youth to participate in the program, and the authorization is updated every six months;
- obtains insurance for the program through an authorized insurance provider;
- provides mandatory reporter and confidentiality training; and
- registers with the Secretary of State.

Host home means a private home that volunteers to host youth in need of temporary placement that is associated with a host home program.

Summary of Engrossed First Substitute Bill: If a licensed youth shelter or homeless youth program knows a youth is away from home with permission, that shelter or program has a duty to contact the parents or guardians unless a compelling reason exists. Compelling reasons include when a minor is seeking or receiving protected health care services. Mandated reports have a duty to report child abuse and neglect.

Host homes do not need parent or legal guardian authorization if there is a compelling reason not to contact the parent or guardian. Compelling reason means that youth is in the host home or seeking placement in a host home while seeking or receiving protected health care services.

Protected health care services means gender affirming treatment and reproductive health care services as defined in statute. Gendering affirming treatment means a service or product that a health care provider, prescribes to an individual to support and affirm the individual's gender identity. Gender affirming treatment includes, but is not limited to, treatment for gender dysphoria. Gender affirming treatment can be prescribed to two-spirit, transgender, nonbinary, and other gender diverse individuals. "Reproductive health care

services" means any medical services or treatments, including pharmaceutical and preventive care service or treatments, directly involved in the reproductive system and its processes, functions, and organs involved in reproduction, in all stages of life. Reproductive health care services does not include infertility treatment.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.


Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony on Original Bill: *The committee recommended a different version of the bill than what was heard.* PRO: Access to health care is important to everyone, but especially trans youth. When you don't have access it leads to life long challenges, including mental health. One in three trans youth report attempting suicide, this rate is much higher than for cis gendered peers. Not every family is ready to provide support to trans youth so if that youth is seeking protected health services, they should be able to safely access that care in supportive environments like shelters and host homes. If shelters are not able to get in touch with the parents, they contact DCYF so there is someone protecting the best interests of the youth. Until the day all kids are accepted, we need to provide loving and supporting places so we can all reach our potential we were given at birth. LGBTQIA+ youth are overrepresented among the homeless, due to families kicking them out or a person seeking services from another state. Our state has a long history of advocating for the rights of LGBTQ community and this bill continues that tradition. We know people are moving to Washington, this will help support families seeking access to services. All youth deserve a stable home. This bill doesn't change medical laws or consent required, but provides support for trans youth.

CON: There is no mention about parents or parental involvement but rather an emotional response to helping children. Minors cannot consent to these kinds of medical procedures. The bill doesn't say how long youth can be away from home, this should be considered child abuse. A parents job is to protect their child, this bill strips parents of that ability. Gender is in your imagination. This bill legalizes the kidnapping of children, allows for the harboring of minors, and segregates us from the union. Children should not be housed in mixed sex situations.

Persons Testifying: PRO: Senator Marko Liias, Prime Sponsor; J. Denise Diskin, QLaw Foundation of Washington; Megan Veith, Building Changes; Jarel Sanders, Equal rights Washington; Matthew Wilson, Oasis Youth Center; Heather Maisen, Public Health -- Seattle and King County.

CON: Eric Pratt, America; Julie Barrett, Conservative Ladies of Washington; Oli London ;



Dawn Land; Alexandra Chrostowski, Gays Against Groomers; Justine Kreher; Marc Nance; Sarah Garriott; Linda Ader; Joshua Hardwick; Andy Cilley, Lakewood CARES; Laurie Layne; Amy Sousa; Leah Anaya, Washington Moms For America; Theresa Schrempp; Dawn Seaver; Erin Brewer; Sharon Slater, Global Helping to Advance Women and Children; Lisa Olson; Brad Payne, Family Policy Institute of Washington; Bonnie Ruiz, Moms for America.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: CON: Karina Kararush; Anthony Carey; Lisa Manske; Keith Adams, Director of Grassroots Outreach; THEODORE CHAMPINE; Trish Huddleston.

EFFECT OF HOUSE AMENDMENT(S):

Host Homes.

- Requires a host home program that serves a youth without parental authorization seeking or receiving protected health care services to do the following:
 1. report to DCYF within 72 hours of the youth's participation in the program and following this report, DCYF must make a good faith attempt to notify the parent of this report and offer services designed to resolve the conflict and accomplish a reunification of the family;
 2. report to DCYF of the youth's participation in the host home program at least once every month when the youth remains in the host home longer than one month; and
 3. provide case management outside of the host home and away from any individuals residing in the home at least once per month.
- Allows host homes to provide care for a youth who is receiving services from the DCYF if the youth is not subject to a dependency proceeding, and is seeking or receiving protected health care services.

Department of Children, Youth, and Families.

- Requires DCYF, after receiving a report from an overnight youth shelter or other licensed organization that provides services to homeless youth that a minor child who is seeking or receiving gender-affirming treatment or reproductive health care services is being served by the shelter or organization without parental permission, to do the following:
 1. offer to make referrals on behalf of the minor for appropriate behavioral health services; and
 2. offer services designed to resolve the conflict and accomplish a reunification of the family.

Office of Homeless Youth.

- Requires the Office of Homeless Youth (OHY) to contract with an outside entity to gather data regarding the number of unsheltered homeless youth under age 18 in the state and develop recommendations for supporting these youth.
- Requires OHY to submit the information and recommendations to the Legislature by July



DETAILED PROCESS FROM WA WEBSITE

<https://leg.wa.gov/legislature/Pages/Testify.aspx>

How to Testify in Committee

Click Committee Schedules, Agendas, and Documents for individual committee agendas and daily and weekly meeting schedules.

"Open" Legislature

Washington State has one of the most open legislatures in the country. A bill has a public hearing before Senate and House committees before being considered on the floor of the House and Senate. For the 2023 session, House and Senate committees will meet using a format which allows for both in-person and remote participation. You have the opportunity to provide written testimony, state your position on a bill, or register to testify either in person or remotely by registering at Committee Sign In. You may also contact your legislator making your position on a bill known. You can do so by writing a letter, sending an e-mail, calling the legislator's Olympia office, or by calling the Legislative Hotline at 800.562.6000.

Committee Hearings

Legislative hearings are conducted informally. The rules are somewhat relaxed but are intended to help preserve decorum and allow respectful, courteous debate. Anyone can testify; you do not need formal training.

To find out when a hearing is scheduled:

- Click Committee Schedules, Agendas, and Documents to view committee meeting schedules.
- Call or email the Legislative Information Center at 1.800.562.6000 or support@leg.wa.gov.
- Subscribe to the Legislature's Committee E-mail Notification Service.

Before the Hearing

Are You a Lobbyist? Generally, if you are testifying on a bill or issues and represent only yourself, you will not be required to register as a lobbyist. A Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) brochure outlines guidelines on this subject.

You do not have to register and report if you:

1. appear only before public meetings of legislative committees or state agencies,
2. or do not receive pay, expenses or other consideration for lobbying and make no expenditure for on behalf of a legislator, elected official or state employee in connection with lobbying, or
3. restrict your lobbying to four days during any three-month period and spend no more than \$35 for or on behalf of a legislator, elected official or state employee.

You can check with the PDC if you're uncertain. The PDC provides online information for lobbyists as well.

Prepare Your Remarks. Time is usually limited, so be brief and direct. Written testimony should not be read at committee hearings. Writing your comments in outline form will be helpful when you speak, and you should summarize your written testimony.

Avoid Duplication. If other persons will be offering similar testimony at the hearing, try to coordinate your testimony and avoid duplication. Well organized testimony is the most effective.

At the Meeting

Testifiers can sign in electronically for all committees at Committee Sign In, or at the kiosks located around the legislative campus. The sign-in window closes one hour before the meeting is set to begin.

- Regardless of whether you sign in to testify remotely or in person, you will receive an individualized link to join the meeting remotely. Do not share your Zoom link for the meeting, and only use as a backup if your plans change. For more detailed instructions on testifying remotely or in person, please visit Committee Sign In.
- Be punctual; usually there is only one public hearing at which testimony is taken on a particular bill.
- Check to see if proposed amendments or substitute bills are available at the Committee Schedules page. Click view docs for the meeting you are interested in.
- Maintain proper committee protocol: wait to be acknowledged by the committee Chair before speaking; ensure testimony is respectful and professional; and follow rules for testimony established by the Chair.

Providing Testimony - In Person

- If you sign in to testify in person, only use your link to participate remotely as a backup if your circumstances change.
- Approach the testimony table when you are called on to testify. The microphones will already be turned on.

Providing Testimony - Remote

- Backgrounds that include a campaign sign, a slogan, or any other material that is campaign-related, offensive, or otherwise defamatory will not be permitted. Be aware that failure to follow the rules for testimony established by the Chair may result in forfeiting the opportunity to testify.
- See detailed instructions on how to join a House or Senate meeting once signed in.

How the Meeting Is Conducted

Be present at the beginning of the hearing. The committee chair will open the hearing on a particular bill. Frequently, opening comments will be made by the bill's sponsor and/or by committee staff. Sometimes, however, the Chair will ask for testimony from proponents and opponents immediately.

The Chair will organize the hearing to ensure

1. committee members hear relevant information,
2. interested persons are given the opportunity to express their positions, and
3. the hearing does not exceed the time available.

Most committee hearings are limited to two hours and may have several matters pending. The Chair will attempt to be fair and provide each person an opportunity to testify. It may be necessary, however, to restrict testimony so that everyone is given an opportunity to express their opinions. You may not be called on to testify, however, you may still provide written testimony up to 24 hours after the start of the hearing.

Making Your Remarks

1. Begin by introducing yourself to the Chair and committee members and stating your purpose. For example, "Mr. or Madam Chair and members of the committee, I am John Doe from Spokane. I am here representing myself. I support this bill because . . ."
2. In your opening remarks, make it clear whether you are representing other citizens or a separate group.
3. Be brief and be sure your remarks are clear. Avoid being too technical and do not repeat previously made remarks. You do not need to be nervous or worried about how you present your testimony.
4. Be prepared for questions and comments from committee members. These are designed to gain additional information, but don't answer if you are not sure of the answer. Tell the members you will send a written answer to the committee, and then follow through.
5. Restrict yourself to your testimony. Abstain from other overt demonstrations such as clapping, cheering, booing, etc.

How to Submit Written Testimony

If you are unable to attend a committee meeting or if you would like to supply additional information, you may use the following method for submitting written testimony:

In the House. You may submit written testimony up to 24 hours after the start of the hearing, or you may email your written testimony directly to all committee members. Be sure to include the bill number and your position on the bill. A list of Committee Chairs can be found at this website: <http://app.leg.wa.gov/Rosters/CommitteeMembersByCommittee/House>.

In the Senate. You may submit written testimony up to 24 hours after the start of the hearing, or you may email your written testimony directly to committee members. Be sure to include the bill number and your position on the bill. Another option is to email your written testimony to committee staff, as an alternative or in addition to submitting testimony to committee members. A list of Senate committees and staff can be found at this website: <http://leg.wa.gov/Senate/Committees/Pages/default.aspx>.

Your District's Legislators. Please refer to How to comment on a bill for instructions on submitting bill comments directly to members in your district.

Family Policy Institute

OF WASHINGTON

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**OUR EVERGREEN STATE
needs you to protect:**

- Life
- Marriage
- Parental Rights
- Religious Liberty

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