Family Institute of Connecticut ACTION

President
Peter Wolfgang
Board of Directors
Chairman
Kenneth Von Kohorn
Treasurer
Richard Caporaso
John Hummel
Gary G. Jackson
Dick Kazarian
Edward H. Morgan, Jr.

3/19/09 Testimony of Peter Wolfgang, President of FIC Action, on H.B. 6452

Good afternoon Chairman Lawlor, Chairman McDonald and members of the committee. My name is Peter Wolfgang and I am the President of the Family Institute of Connecticut Action, an organization whose mission is "to encourage and strengthen the family as the foundation of society and to promote sound, ethical and moral values in our culture and government." I am here today to ask you to oppose H.B. 6452, An Act Concerning Discrimination.

H.B. 6452 would raise a cluster of various transsexual related behaviors, under the title of gender identity and expression, to a protected class. It would make them equal to constitutionally protected classes such as race, color, religion and national origin. This would mean that a person's son or daughter could be exposed to teachers in their schools who one day will be a man and the next day could decide to be a woman and this would be protected. Under this bill your child could be forced to learn that their teacher, say Mr. Jones, has now become Mrs. Jones--and that this is perfectly normal. It would mean that court-ordered same-sex "marriage" is just the first step in a campaign to force children in our public schools to be exposed to "alternative lifestyles" even if their parents disapprove. Above all this legislation shows the hubris of those who see "gender" as something to be changed at will, of those who are trying to deconstruct the most basic of natural categories--male and female.

Boards of education would be forbidden from disciplining or declining to hire a male teacher who wants to wear a dress while teaching the public's children. Businesses would be equally hamstrung when hiring people who must deal with the public—say, a salesperson or receptionist—which would likely hurt their sales.

If this bill were to become law, the consequences would be serious. Women and children would be put at risk since anyone, regardless of their biological sex, would be allowed access to sensitive areas such as single-sex bathrooms and locker rooms as well as college dormitories. Nothing would prevent a male sexual predator from pretending that he is confused about his sex to gain access to a woman's bathroom or to join a female-only fitness club. The law could also affect sex education classes in school, suggesting that sex change operations are mainstream and confusing children even more.

To this day, gender identity confusion is considered by professional psychology to be a mental disorder. It should not be raised to the level of a protected class. For all of these reasons, I ask you to oppose H.B. 6452. Thank you.

P.O. Box 260210, Hartford, CT 06126 • Website: www.ctfamily.org • E-mail: info@ctfamily.org

Toll-Free in CT: (877) 33-FAMILY • Outside CT: (860) 548-0066 • Fax: (860) 548-9545