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To the committee:

Many questions come to mind when I read the gist of this bill:

what about children with nicknames?

who are adopted later in life?

who change their last name because a parent gets married, remarried, divorced?

My name is Rachel Iafolla, but I go by Rae. If a public school were to refer to me as such... what then?

Speaking to the gender element, most children categorize their gender by age 3 (Mayo Clinic "Children and Gender Identity: Supporting your child). Children know themselves better than the state does. Public schools should be a place where kids can learn about themselves, other people, and all the things that make us human. Where they can BE themselves. Transgender people, transgender children, exist. They are part of the human experience.

Moreover, the more obsession we place the trans versus cis debate just puts cisgender folks (especially women and girls, as trans women are often the target of many anti-trans legislation) in greater danger. If we begin to villainize any gender identify, then the calls for "proof" of not being in that group can come. And with that comes ample opportunity for assault, intimidation, etc.

Just leave the kids alone.

Thank you for your time and consideration.