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Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee.

My name is Christopher Carson, I'm a resident of Auburn, and I am president of CampusTours Inc., a small software firm that builds interactive maps and virtual tours for hundreds of colleges, universities, non-profits and government agencies.

I am here today in opposition of the bills before the committee today.

My company CampusTours Inc (www.CampusTours.com & www.CampusMaps.com) works with hundreds of U.S. colleges, universities, non-profits and government agencies. Our clients hail from every U.S. state and twelve (12) foreign countries, and some of these organizations have representatives that are trans individuals and are very offended if we "misgender" them during meetings.

What I'm trying to convey is that trans people are everywhere now, and regardless of the public's opinions of the trans community, our school graduates need to be educated to treat these people with respect and professionalism, and that can't happen if we ignore the issue.

Public schools expose students to a variety of concepts and lifestyles that their parents may not support, but are imperative for dealing with people in the real world. This is the essence of public education, and we should not limit student's exposure to trans lifestyles simply because it might offend the sensibilities of some parents.

The laws before you do not make our children better educated citizens of the world – in fact they do the opposite.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee. I urge you to vote "Ought not to Pass" on these bills. Thank you!

-Chris Carson
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