



June 30, 2026

Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
2138 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representatives,

The House Judiciary Committee is scheduled to mark up H.R. 7651, the Chloe Cole Act. While this bill pretends to protect young people from medical malpractice, it is simply another attempt to ban access to gender affirming care for transgender young people. HRC strongly urges Members to vote against H.R. 7651.

H.R. 7651 attempts to make the liability for gender affirming care so high that health care professionals stop providing this type of care altogether.

The sponsor made his intent clear in his press release: “This is a landmark bill that will permanently end [the practice of gender affirming care].” This bill has nothing to do with protecting patients who have experienced medical malpractice. When someone experiences genuine medical malpractice, they can seek recourse, and have done so successfully. Just like in any type of health care, if there are providers not following the established standard of care, they can be held liable.

All the leading medical associations in the U.S.—including the American Medical Association, the American Psychological Association, and the American Academy of Pediatrics—support gender-affirming care. Extensive peer-reviewed research shows that this care is safe, effective, and essential to the health and wellbeing of transgender people. In fact, when the Utah legislature was considering a ban on gender affirming care, they commissioned a review of the safety and efficacy of the treatments, which concluded that the consensus of the evidence clearly showed that gender affirming care is effective and safe.

Health care providers follow guidelines when providing gender-affirming care that are based on the latest science and medical evidence. These guidelines are updated regularly in consultation with leading public health experts, researchers, and clinicians. Providers work with patients and families to answer questions and make a personal plan with each patient based on their needs. These well-established standards of care ensure that families can get their child the care that is right for them.

Health care decisions should be made by doctors, patients, and their families based on the patient’s individual needs and current medical standards. Politically-motivated lawmakers should not be in charge of health care decision making. Attempts to legally block that care are taking away parents’ rights to support their children and make decisions that are best for their families.

Best,

Jennifer Pike Bailey
Senior Director of Government Affairs