

Dear Karen Winkel,

I am a pediatrician with more than 20 years of experience caring for children in several different countries and writing to you regarding HB2002. I am aware of what is entailed in the development of Standards of Care and what the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH) is calling the Standard of Care is anything but standard. There is no definitive evidence that supports their version of gender affirming care. There are no robust long-term studies that demonstrate without doubt that their standards of care result in desired outcomes for these patients. In fact, there is plenty of evidence to the contrary and I strongly urge that ALL approaches to caring for people with gender dysphoria be considered. Moreover, when insurance companies accept certain services into their catalog for coverage, it will lend more credibility to these services than is warranted. This in turn moves the authority out from the physician and inserts financial pressure into the doctor-patient relationship by limiting options available to the physician in caring for his or her patient.

To summarize, I urge you to NOT accept WPATH's "standards of care".

Thank you,

Katherine Welch, MD

Magnificat Family Medicine, LLC

"Holistic care upholding the dignity of men, women, and children"

8240 Naab Rd., Suite 416

Indianapolis, IN 46260

Ofc 317.306.5588

Fax 317.550.1544

www.magnificatfamilymedicine.com

"Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more." -Luke 12:48

