



February 23, 2025

SUBMITTED VIA EMAIL TO:

Judiciary Committee, WV House, [judiciary@wvhouse.gov](mailto:judiciary@wvhouse.gov)  
House Judiciary Committee members \*

TESTIMONY in Opposition to **HB 2006**

The League of Women Voters supports equal rights for all under state and federal law regardless of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or disability.

HB 2006 chooses to divide its citizens and single out certain West Virginians for discrimination based on misinformation about human biology. Writing misinformation into law does not make it scientifically valid. Perhaps this statement from *Scientific American* (2018) will clarify: "*Biologists may have been building a more nuanced view of sex, but society has yet to catch up.*" ([Sex Redefined: The Idea of 2 Sexes Is Overly Simplistic](#), *Scientific American*, Oct. 22, 2018)

With HB 2006, the WV Legislature demonstrates it has yet to catch up. We OPPOSE this bill because it targets individuals who do not meet the bill sponsors' narrow and inaccurate definition of sex.

And, we are perplexed. Why is this Legislature choosing to spend precious time out of your scarce 60 Days on a bill designed expressly to harm vulnerable West Virginians? To discriminate?

This Legislature has many important policy decisions to make that affect our population at large – public employees, our entire public education system, thousands of children in foster care, families who need reliable and affordable childcare to enable workforce participation, a budget that needs to be balanced, to name just a few items. So, we are perplexed. Why expend your time and efforts on bills like HB 2006?.

Back in Nov. 2024, *Mountain State Spotlight* summarized the concerns expressed from West Virginia's 55 counties: "Everywhere we went, there were common refrains from voters: We need more substance abuse treatment and recovery programs. We need clean and reliable water. Our roads need to be fixed or upgraded. Our community needs more jobs, better schools, affordable child care, and a more responsive government."

*Spotlight* also found that West Virginians are tired of politicians trying to tie our concerns to national parties' agendas. The consensus, as reported by *Mountain State Spotlight*: "We also heard that lawmakers focus too much on issues that can tend to divide West Virginians, and not enough on things that can bring us all together."

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The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan volunteer organization that encourages informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate, but is engaged in local, state, and national issues of importance to our communities. The League works to influence public policy through advocacy and education. League membership is open to all men and women age 16 or older. More at: [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org) (National) and [www.lwvwy.org](http://www.lwvwy.org) (WV).

The League of Women Voters urges you to vote against HB 2006. The WV Legislature needs to stop stigmatizing and demonizing vulnerable citizens of this state. Stop doing harm. Stop being an agent of division.

Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,



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