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From: Eric Cubin <ecubin@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 10:01 PM

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Subject: Chloe's Law and WMS

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from ecubin@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

My name is Eric Cubin. I am a physician in Casper. I am writing you today for a couple reasons. This email was originally written with the intent of sending it to the cosponsors of SF 99, Chloe's law. After considering it for some time, I've decided to expand the audience to the entire House of Representatives because I think you all need to know what is happening.

First and foremost, I want to say thank you. Thank you for spending your time and energy in an effort to keep Wyoming the last great place!

Second, I'm writing you because of SF 99, Chloe's Law. There is a situation that has arisen that I want to make you aware of. In addition, I would like to present each of you with some information that you may not otherwise be provided.

It saddens me very much to have to report that, under their current leadership, the Wyoming Medical Society has been essentially hijacked by the far left. It seems that they have decided to prioritize politics over their stated mission of physician advocacy. In my opinion, they have adopted and embraced "woke" positions that are not congruent with the thoughts and opinions of the majority of their physician members. In essence, I have lost all confidence in their ability or desire to faithfully represent the physicians in this state.

Please allow me to give you an example. WMS seems to have teamed up with the American Association of Pediatricians in opposing SF 99. Quite frankly, I refuse to believe that the majority of physicians in this very conservative state agree with this position - and we were never polled. This position was established by several very vocal, extremely liberal members of the Board. The position was then made public as though it actually represents the thoughts and beliefs of physicians in Wyoming when, in fact, that is probably not true.

In their opposition to Chloe's Law, the WMS has partnered with Dr. Sanderson, a pediatrician from Sheridan, who is the President of the WyAAP. Dr. Sanderson has effectively delivered the position of his organization but he has failed to tell you that there is another pediatric professional society that has taken an opposite position, the American College of Pediatricians (ACP). It turns out, the ACP put out a position statement that was revised February 5th, 2024, which reads in part:

"The ACPeds cannot condone the social affirmation, medical intervention, or surgical mutilation of children and adolescents identifying as transgender or gender nonconforming."

You can find the full text to their position statement at:

<https://acped.org/position-statements/mental-health-in-adolescents-with-incongruence-of-gender-identity-and-biological-sex>

The ACP created another germane position statement in 2018 which is worth reviewing and can be found at:

<https://acpeds.org/position-statements/gender-dysphoria-in-children>

You need to know that Dr. Sanderson (and presumably the WMS leadership) were aware of these ACP positions and yet they were ignored and suppressed when the WMS position was established. Further, I presume that you have only been provided with the WMS/AAP position and not the ACP position statements. As I have communicated to the entire WMS Board, it is not acceptable to only present one side of an issue in an effort to effect change in social policy.

For further illustration of the WMS's embracing of the woke transgender movement, I would also invite you to look at their Spring 2023 issue of "Wyoming Medicine" magazine. In this particular issue they feature "Gender Affirming Care" on the cover and in a feature article. I have no idea why the WMS has elected to take this unnecessary position that is so clearly contrary to the viewpoint of the majority of their members.

You can find the Spring 2023 edition of "Wyoming Medicine" here:

https://www.wyomed.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/23-WMS-0012_Spring2023_digital.pdf

I want to be very clear that the WMS membership was never polled on their opinions of "Gender Affirming Care" even though I have implored the leadership to do so. It feels very much like the leadership at WMS has inserted their opinions in hopes that the WMS membership would not notice or speak up.

At this point, the strongest argument that I've heard in favor of killing this bill, as Dr. Sanderson referred to in his Senate testimony, is that the legislature should not do anything to interfere with the doctor patient relationship. At face value, I agree with that wholeheartedly. That being said, there are some instances in which, for the safety of the public, it would be completely appropriate and reasonable for the legislature to make rules governing what is and is not acceptable in our society. For example, if a physician moved into our state and started performing physician-assisted suicide, should that be allowed because it falls under the doctor-patient relationship?

Another example that I would offer for your consideration is that of child abuse. All physicians are legally and morally required to report any instance in which we suspect child abuse. Why? Is that government overreach? Does that violate the doctor patient relationship? Obviously, we all do that to protect our youth. "Gender affirming care" with the use of puberty blockers and hormones in a patient with normal physiology takes a patient who is normal and makes them abnormal. How can that be viewed as anything but harmful? This is particularly true in young people who are impressionable and whose brains have not developed sufficiently to make decisions such as these - and it will likely have negative effects on them later in life. When it comes to gender affirming care in children, we can protect them by not allowing them to engage in it.

I think it is important for you to know that I have aggressively tried to address this situation with the

WMS Board over the last couple days. I was given an assurance earlier today that the WMS Board will be holding an executive session of some kind to determine if they will be changing their position from opposing this bill to a neutral position. At this time, I have not been given any assurance that the WMS will be changing their position, so I feel the need to advocate on my own behalf by coming to you directly with this information. It is entirely possible that when this bill is considered in committee and on the floor that the WMS position may have been changed to neutral. Up to this point, however, they have not changed their position to neutral.

From the perspective of a Wyoming doctor who actually practices medicine at the very hospital where he was born, I can tell you that this is a good bill. Please do not kill it, combine it, or amend it into oblivion. This is very clearly an instance where it is completely appropriate and reasonable for all of you to stand up and say "we don't do that here".

Thank you again for all that you are doing for the citizens of Wyoming and for considering my concerns. I hope that you find the information presented above helpful in promoting and passing SF 99. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns.

God Bless,
Eric Cubin MD, MS