

MNA opposes SB 99 as it interferes with the patient/provider relationship. This bill interferes with the rights of parents who seek the most appropriate healthcare for their child, whether it is mental health, physical health, emotional health, or spiritual health.

SB 99 is substituting OPINIONS of legislators for the rights of parents to raise their children and interferes with access to this healthcare. Substituting opinions and uneducated emotional reactions leads to disinformation and misinformation and flies in the face of evidence-based science and data, published in healthcare that your physicians, nurses, social workers, counselors, and other health professionals practice every day.

You would be taking away a tool from parents to save their children. You are saying, through this bill, to a very, very small population of our state that you are not “right” the way you are, all because these children and families are not like you. We all deserve freedom, not just the ones you pick and choose. There is not one of you here that would allow anyone or any government to come into your home, or your kids home, or grandchild’s home, and dictate to you or them, how you will raise your children. SB 99 is saying that these parents have NO rights.

It is not irreparable harm when parents elicit the help of HEALTH professionals for counseling and other gender affirming care, they hope it saves their child’s life. It is not irreparable harm when parents elicit the help of HEALTH professionals for oncology care for their 3-month-old, they hope it saves their child’s life. The parents decide, together with their healthcare providers, the best course of action based on all the

science and data and experience available to them to move forward and keep their child safe and alive. Your interference in either or any situation would compromise their child's life.

Our country, our state, is built on parents being responsible for their children. In fact, none of us like being told by our own parents or in laws what to do with our kids or how to raise them, why would it be ok for the government to interfere, specifically with this vulnerable population. This type of interference, on a grander level, was evident, (and as MNA CEO I can speak to this because I have the hate mail/calls to prove it), when many of you and others became so angry, due to misinformation and disinformation, that the government wanted you to simply wear a mask, during a global pandemic no less, (MNA supported the science and asked kindly for everyone to wear a mask) and now you are saying the state government CAN tell a mother and/or father what to do with their children and they have NO right to opt out?

No legislation should be driven by misinformation and disinformation.

Please vote no on SB 99.