

REVERSE THE BAN ON GENDER AFFIRMING CARE IN QUEENSLAND

28 November 2025

An Open Letter to the Queensland Government

We are a coalition of health and medical professionals, community organisations and legal experts writing to express our deep dismay at the Queensland Government's decision to double down on its ban denying healthcare to young trans people.

Denying care is not a neutral act — doing nothing is not harm-free. In fact, denying care is the one course of action guaranteed to cause lasting harm.

The Government's misuse of 44(1) of the *Hospital and Health Boards Act 2011* (QLD) not only contradicts the clear intent of the law but also violates the wishes of young people, parents and the broader community.

Politicians have no place overriding parents and dictating private medical decisions made between patients, their families and qualified clinicians.

The government claims to be acting in the public interest, which requires promoting health and safety, improving service quality for all Queenslanders, and protecting vulnerable people from harm.

And yet it is the most vulnerable members of the public who are hurt the most by this ban on such essential health care.

True public interest lies in ensuring every young person can access the care they need, when they need it. Every young person in Queensland is entitled to receive medical care without political interference.

Queensland now stands alone as the only state removing this vital support from young people— a decision that defies expert medical consensus, global guidelines, community expectations and the government's own human rights obligations.

An independent Queensland review conducted just last year confirmed that gender-affirming care is both safe and effective, and delivered to a high standard at the Queensland Children's Gender Service.

Yet instead of acting on that evidence, the government has chosen to ignore it.

The Queensland government has also maintained access to puberty blockers and hormone therapies for young people who are not trans — even as access remains restricted for those who are.

The evidence on the benefits of gender affirming medical care is clear and well established. Puberty blockers and hormone treatments — for the small number of young people who need them — are essential and life-saving healthcare.

Denying access to gender affirmation will cause immeasurable damage to those young people who need it, increasing the risk of depression, anxiety, self-harm and suicide.

Parents are rightly terrified about what this will mean for their children.

To undermine young people, parents, families and health professionals across the state and restrict or deny access to this care is a politically motivated move that endangers further the already marginalised and vulnerable Queenslanders whom the government is supposed to protect.

In a landmark decision, the Queensland Supreme Court ruled that the government's Health Services Directive to enact the ban was unlawful. To immediately reinstate the ban under a different power ignores the clear wishes of community and all credible medical evidence.

We urge the Queensland Government to immediately reverse this dangerous and damaging ban in accordance with the best interests of children, wishes of parents, the evidence of experts, and the rule of law.

ORGANISATION SIGNATORIES:

1. A Gender Agenda ACT
2. ACON
3. ACT Mental Health Consumer Network
4. AIVL
5. Albany Pride
6. AltSpace Therapies
7. Ambassadors & Bridge Builders International
8. Anglicare Southern Queensland
9. Anwernekenhe National HIV Alliance
10. ASHM Health
11. Asian Australian Alliance
12. Australian Professional Association for Trans Health (AusPATH)
13. Australian Council of Social Service
14. Australian GLBTIQ Multicultural Council
15. Australian Rainbow Veterinarians and Allies
16. Basic Rights Queensland
17. BlaQ Aboriginal Corporation
18. Carer Gateway, Wellways
19. Centre for Social Research in Health, UNSW Sydney
20. Chosen Family Pty Ltd
21. Community Connections
22. Community Living Association
23. Connect Psychology
24. Diverse Voices
25. Dowson Turco Lawyers
26. Drummond Street Services/Queerspace
27. Engender Equality
28. Equal Voices
29. Equality Australia
30. Evolution Launch Support Services
31. Feast Festival
32. Finance Sector Union of Australia
33. Flinders University Queer Collective
34. Forcibly Displaced Peoples Network (FDPN)
35. Free Mum Hugs, Australia
36. GAY SKATE
37. Gender Health Australia
38. Gimuy Queer Collective
39. Goulburn Valley Pride Inc
40. Haven Psychology Centre Pty Ltd
41. Headspace Caboolture YRG
42. Headspace Indooroopilly
43. Headspace Redcliffe
44. Headspace Rockhampton YRG
45. Headspace Strathpine
46. Health Equity Matters
47. Human Rights Law Centre
48. Hunter Gender Alliance
49. Illawarra Shoalhaven Gender Alliance
50. Impact Co.
51. Inclusive Rainbow Voices
52. Inner City Legal Centre
53. Inner West Council LGBTQ Local Democracy Group
54. Inner West Roller Derby League
55. Intellectual Disability Rights Service
56. InterLink
57. International Women's Development Agency (IWDA)
58. Justice and Equity Centre
59. Kardinia Health
60. Kimberley Blak Pride
61. LGBTI Legal Service
62. LGBTIQ Health Australia
63. Living Proud, WA
64. Meridian
65. Many Genders One Voice
66. Minus18 Foundation
67. Network of Alcohol and Drugs Agencies (NADA)
68. National Mental Health Consumer Alliance
69. National Women's Safety Alliance
70. Newcastle Parent Group
71. No Milk In My T
72. Open Doors Youth Services
73. Parents for Trans Youth Equity

ORGANISATION SIGNATORIES:

74. Parents of Gender Diverse Children (SA)
75. People With Disability Australia (PWDA)
76. Perth Inner City Youth Service
77. Phoenix Rising
78. Picabeen Youth Service
79. Positive Attitude Inc
80. Pride Centre, Victoria
81. Pride in Law
82. Queensland Network of Alcohol and other Drugs Agencies (QNADA)
83. QTrans
84. Queensland Advocacy for Inclusion (QAI)
85. Queensland Alliance for Mental Health
86. Queensland Council for LGBTI Health
87. Queensland Council of Social Service
88. Queensland Lived Experience Workforce Network
89. Queensland Nurses and Midwives' Union
90. Queer & Trans Workers Against Violence
91. Queensland Injectors Voice for Advocacy and Action (QuIVAA)
92. Rainbow Affinity
93. Rainbow Catholics Interagency Australia
94. Rainbow Families Australia
95. Rainbow Families, Queensland
96. Rainbow Futures, WA
97. Rainbow Giving Australia
98. Rainbow Hollow Services
99. Respect QLD
100. Roses in the Ocean
101. Rough Patch Counselling
102. SA Rainbow Advocacy Alliance (SARAA)
103. Sexual Health Society of Queensland
104. Sisters Inside
105. Sock Drawer Heroes
106. St James Pharmacy
107. Switchboard Victoria
108. Team Rainbow
109. The Benevolent Society
110. The Brisbane Endocrine and Gender Service
111. The Courageous Space
112. The Mental Health Lived Experience Peak Queensland
113. The Relationship Space
114. The Vital Collective
115. Third Queer Culture/QPASTT
116. Thorne Harbour Health
117. Trans Justice Project Adelaide Tarntanya
118. Trans Justice Project Brisbane Meanjin
119. Trans Justice Project National
120. Trans Justice Project Canberra, Ngunnawal/Ngambri
121. Trans Justice Sydney
122. Trans.au
123. Transcend Australia
124. Transfemme SA
125. Transfolk WA
126. Transgender Victoria
127. True Relationships & Reproductive Health
128. Twenty10
129. Uniting Communities
130. Victorian Pride Lobby
131. VMIAC
132. Women's Health in the North
133. WAAC
134. We Skate Queensland
135. Women's Justice Network
136. YFS
137. Your Community Health
138. Yourtown
139. Youth Advocacy Centre
140. Zoe Belle Gender Collective

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