



TOPEKA

SENATE CHAMBER

Senate Bill 12  
Proponent Testimony  
Senator Mike Thompson  
Senate District 10

Chairwoman Gossage and members of the committee,

I stand in strong support of Senate Bill 12.

There are some decisions in life that are so consequential that society, out of compassion and love, must step in to protect those who may make those decisions prematurely.

In fact, decisions of that magnitude are so potentially life-altering, that we prosecute adults who contribute to dangerous choices that underage persons make. Preventing the drinking of hard liquor under the age of 21 is one example, and so we write laws to protect those individuals from their own lack of judgment and the bad judgement of adults who encourage or promote that harmful behavior.

Similarly, Senate Bill 12 protects young Kansans from mutilating, irreversible, toxic, and life threatening, surgical, medical, and chemical procedures that are employed to ostensibly change their gender. These procedures are essentially experimentation on young healthy people who frequently become permanent medical patients because of these interventions.

The life-altering decision to accede to gender reassignment protocols should ***only*** be made by the individual who will suffer the long-term consequences of their course of action. They must be made at an age where they can fully understand the risks, and take full responsibility for, the impact of their own choices. Their final determination should be made independent of the influence or coercion of others. They must be able to live with their decision and realize that no one else will be to blame for the outcome.

What is the age at which we should allow young people to independently conclude that they should proceed with these types of procedures? Consider this:

- The Federal government allows young people to remain on their parent's insurance up to age 26.
- The human brain is not fully developed until the mid-20s.
- We disallow drinking alcohol under age 18, and hard liquor consumption for those under 21.

STATE OF KANSAS

STATE CAPITOL  
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612  
(785) 296-7362  
mtnoagw@gmail.com



TOPEKA

SENATE CHAMBER

MIKE THOMPSON

STATE SENATOR, 10TH DISTRICT  
mike.thompson@senate.ks.gov

CHAIR, FEDERAL & STATE AFFIARS  
COMMITTEE

- Adolescence is a time for many where they are trying to figure out where they fit into society. Enough 18 to 20 years olds don't have the life experience to avoid deleterious behavior.
- Typically, they are not financially equipped to independently make decisions that can be influenced by the pecuniary decisions of others.

I urge you to pass Senate Bill 12 to ensure that we protect all our children and young people in Kansas!

Thank you!

Standing in protection of our children,

*Mike Thompson*

Senator Mike Thompson  
Kansas 10<sup>th</sup> District