



An Open Letter to the Colorado General Assembly

April 11, 2025

As a coalition of Christians, we write to express our deep concern and firm opposition to House Bill 25-1312—a dangerous proposal that undermines parental rights, threatens religious liberty, and seeks to enshrine radical gender ideology into Colorado law.

If passed, HB25-1312 would allow courts to consider a parent’s refusal to affirm a child’s so-called “gender identity” as a form of “coercive control.” This includes using a child’s legal name or biologically accurate pronouns—an act the bill implicitly defines as harmful, even abusive. Such language would empower the state to intervene in family life and, in some cases, even remove children from the custody of loving parents who refuse to embrace a lie.

Ironically, the legislation takes extra care to protect public entities from legal consequences when using a child’s legal name for “legitimate public purposes.” This contrast sends a chilling message: the state is to be shielded, while parents are to be punished. The implication is clear—parents are disposable, but the state is supreme.

This must be rejected.

The God-ordained family unit—not the government—is the foundation of a healthy society. Mothers and fathers are uniquely called to rear and guide their children with love, truth, and care. When the state begins to usurp this role, not only does it trample upon parental rights—it assumes a godlike authority over human identity, morality, and family structure.

Christians, and Americans across our nation, recognize this for what it is: a direct assault on truth and the authority of God. No government has the right to compel parents to affirm falsehoods or penalize them for adhering to their faith and biology. Scripture is clear—every person is created by God, male or female (Genesis 1:27), and no amount of medication, surgery, or political redefinition can alter the inescapable reality of God’s design.

Furthermore, indoctrinating children with ideologies that deny biological truth is not compassion—it is cruelty. It confuses their identity, harms their development, and often leads to lifelong physical and emotional scars. No law should criminalize parents for lovingly telling their children the truth.

The Danbury Institute urges the Colorado General Assembly to reject HB25-1312 in its entirety. This bill represents a grave overreach of state power and a fundamental threat to parental authority and religious freedom. It is the responsibility of lawmakers to protect children—not politicize them, and to defend the family—not dismantle it.

We ask you to stand on the side of truth, biology, freedom of conscience, and the God-given rights of parents.

Sincerely,

The Danbury Institute and the undersigned individuals

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