

[Month Day, Year]

Dear Member of the Legislative Assembly,

I am writing to you today to express my support for upholding Canadian [Human Rights Act](#), section 3(1) for all trans, gender-diverse, and queer Albertans, including those under the age of 18.

Across the province, 2SLGBTQ+-focused nonprofits, allies, and members of the community are united in calling on this government to protect all trans, gender-diverse, and queer Albertans from risk and harm that continues to impact these minority communities. Resolution 8 as outlined in the 2023 Governance Resolution to AGM would serve to perpetuate this system of harm, restrict the autonomy of Albertans under 16, and increase the fear of coming out to peers, parents, and other family members.

Resolution 8 is built on misinformation that has muddled and distorted the understanding of gender identity and expression, including the importance of protecting it. Gender identity and expression are not a matter of public policy or debate. They are fundamental human rights. Since June 2017, the Canadian *Human Rights Act* and equal opportunity/anti-discrimination legislation have prohibited discrimination related to sex or gender identity or expression.

By enacting Resolution 8, this government is putting Albertans under 16 at an increased risk - especially when trans, gender-diverse, and queer youth are already at a [higher risk of suicide ideation and suicide attempts](#) compared to their cisgender and heterosexual peers. This policy, if enacted, would negatively impact *all* trans, gender-diverse, and queer Albertans as misinformation, misunderstanding, distortion, and bias towards gender identity and expression continues to thrive in public spaces, both on and offline. A policy such as Resolution 8 enforces negative stigma, loss of youth autonomy, and infringes on *human rights*.

With this letter I urge you to:

Resist the lobbying efforts and misinformation that seek to restrict child autonomy, perpetuate negative stigma, and spread misinformation regarding gender identity and expression.

Albertans under 16 should have the choice of how they identify in a safe school environment. Albertans under 16 should have the choice to decide when they want to come out to their parents. Albertans under 16 should not have to fear that their teachers or school administration will out them under this policy, if enacted.

2SLGBTQ+ Albertans of all ages are protected under federal human rights legislation and deserve to feel safe in their homes, at school, and in public. That's why I am calling on you to protect these rights and vote against Resolution 8.

Sincerely,

[your name will go here]

[your location will go here]