

December 16, 2025

Dear Members of Congress:

We, the undersigned medical professional organizations, write in strong opposition to H.R. 3492 and H.R. 498. These bills would criminalize and dismantle health care for transgender young people and as such represent a direct threat to patient welfare. We urge you to reject these extreme proposals.

Families must be able to make personal medical decisions regarding the care of their child in consultation with trained health professionals. H.R. 3492 threatens parents and physicians with imprisonment for obtaining medically necessary health care. Such a proposal harms the physical and mental health and well-being of families and interferes with parents' ability to make informed decisions in the best interests of their child. It also creates an irresolvable ethical conflict that makes it impossible to fulfill their duty to put the needs of the patient first.

Health care for transgender young people is individualized, age-appropriate, provided according to longstanding expert clinical guidelines, and supported by leading American medical organizations. Under existing guidelines, medical interventions are provided only after careful screening and joint decision-making including a patient, family, and their care team. H.R. 498 would insert the federal government between patients and physicians. It would also put this care out of reach for families nationwide by prohibiting the use of federal Medicaid funding for its provision and requiring physicians to provide different care to patients based on the health insurance they hold. Preventing anyone from obtaining medically necessary care threatens their physical and mental health and well-being and that of their families.

Our organizations are united in opposition to political interference in the practice of medicine. The confidential relationship between a patient, their caregiver, and a physician is the foundation of clinical care. Physicians and other health professionals should never be criminalized or penalized for providing care consistent with evidence-based guidelines and best clinical judgment, and the government should not interfere. Physicians, not the federal government, are best positioned to work with patients and their families to address their unique medical and mental health care needs.

We urge lawmakers to oppose these harmful intrusions into the patient-physician relationship and the provision of medical care.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Pediatrics

American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists

American College of Physicians

American Psychiatric Association