

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Members of Wisconsin Legislative LGBTQ+ Caucus Testify Against Bills Targeting Transgender and Nonbinary Young Wisconsinites

MADISON, Wis. — Today, legislative Republicans in the State Assembly held a public hearing on two bills that would harm and exclude transgender and nonbinary youth in Wisconsin. LGBTQ+ Caucus Chair Sen. Mark Spreitzer submitted the attached testimony in opposition to Assembly Bill 100 and Assembly Bill 103. On behalf of members of the Wisconsin Legislative LGBTQ+ Caucus who oppose the bills, Chair Sen. Mark Spreitzer and Vice Chair Rep. Christian Phelps issued the following statement:

"Today, the Assembly Committee on Education held a public hearing on two bills that would infringe upon the freedom of transgender and nonbinary students to be a part of their school communities as their authentic selves, both in the classroom and in school-sponsored athletics.

"Assembly Bill 100 – which would prevent transgender students from participating in sports consistent with their gender identity— and Assembly Bill 103 – which micromanages how students are addressed by school staff and whether legal name changes will be recognized in school records – are cruel, unnecessary, and dangerous attacks against some of the youngest members of our state.

"We applaud the persistence and bravery of those who came to share their personal stories in opposition to these bills. Every young person deserves the opportunity to go to school and feel accepted and safe, and to participate in a range of classroom and extracurricular activities without having to compromise who they are.

"We call upon our Republican colleagues to stop playing political games and inflicting unnecessary pain on transgender and nonbinary Wisconsin children, and to remove these bills from consideration. To the transgender and nonbinary youth across Wisconsin, you are seen, you are loved, and you belong here as your authentic selves. We will continue to fight to ensure that these bills—and any future legislation that harms LGBTQ+ Wisconsinites—will never become law in Wisconsin."

Senator Mark Spreitzer is the Chair of the Wisconsin LGBTQ+ Caucus and Representative Christian Phelps is the Vice Chair of the Wisconsin LGBTQ+ Caucus and is a member of the Assembly Committee on Education.