

Letter 40

From: [REDACTED]
To: [ETF SMB GIB Feedback](#)
Subject: Support Treatment of Gender Identity/Dysphoria
Date: Sunday, January 8, 2017 12:35:29 PM

Dear members of the Group Insurance Board,

I am writing to ask you not to reinstate the exclusion for treatment of gender identity or gender dysphoria.

There are fellow state employees who may need medical help with gender identity or dysphoria. Treatment for them has been deemed medically necessary by major medical organizations, including the American Medical Association and American Psychological Association. The treatments improves health and well-being, have been well researched, and can often save the lives of these people.

The exclusion does nothing in cutting costs. The suicide rate of trans or gender non-conforming people is at a staggering 41% (compared to the national average of 4.6%, [according to the Williams Institute](#)). Removing access to proper treatment such as counseling, hormonal therapy, and surgery will induce more complications, such as anxiety, depression, and attempted suicides.

A measure that does nothing to cut cost, yet will inflict real harm to some people, is not a measure that you should support.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Dr. Jerry Hui
Assistant Professor of Music & Director of Choral Activities
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[REDACTED]