

Letter 29

Department of Employee Trust Funds
GIB Liaison
P.O. Box 7931
Madison, WI 53707-7931

To the Members of the Group Insurance Board,

It has come to my attention that you intend to reinstate transgender exclusions in your Wisconsin group health insurance plans. Quite frankly, I am appalled. It is becoming quite clear that one is transgender by birth and not by choice and the high suicide rate among transgender individuals who do not receive adequate care is staggering, making this a matter of life and death.

The transgender students who have crossed my path are not going through a phase, but have instead experienced life-long struggles. This policy of excluding transgender patients from coverage is yet another obstacle put in their way.

I have been a proud employee of the University of Wisconsin for almost 30 years, but am truly and deeply ashamed that the state I have come to call home would take such a step.

I urge you in the strongest possible terms to reconsider.

Sincerely,



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