

From: [Phil Jurasinski](#)
To: [Public Testimony](#)
Subject: Resolution 230385
Date: Tuesday, May 9, 2023 9:28:41 PM

Dear Councilwoman Bough, Mayor Lucas, Council Bunch, and Kansas City Council:

My name is Phil Jurasinski, and I am an internal medicine and pediatric physician. I am also an openly gay man, and am a proud member of the LGBTQ community in Kansas City. I am writing in support of resolution 230385, which will make Kansas City a sanctuary city for those receiving gender affirming care.

I have had the privilege of taking care of kids and adults from the LGBTQ community in my practice. I am also seeking to create a welcoming environment for the community. Gender affirming care is life saving care, since it is associated with decreased rates of suicide and lower rates of depression and anxiety. I empathize with how difficult it is to live your life openly, and gender affirming care allows all people to do just that.

During medical school, I had the honor of having my best friend Elizabeth, who also was one of my classmates, come out to me as transgender. I saw her grow more and more into herself as she started her transitioning process, and saw her become more dedicated to serving other transgender children. She still serves as an inspiration to me to care for adults and children of all backgrounds, but especially those who identify as transgender.

Making Kansas City a sanctuary city for gender affirming care will not only allow people to come into themselves, but also save their lives. I fully support resolution 230385, and encourage internal medicine and pediatric physicians to do so as well.

Sincerely,

Philip Jurasinski, DO, MPH, MSN