



To: Interested Parties
Fr: The Transgender Freedom Alliance
Date: June 4, 2026
Re: Responding to Attacks on Healthcare Access

Young people are often used as a vehicle for broader efforts by the Right to roll back rights—and that is true in the case of healthcare for transgender youth as well. The perceived safety and health of young people provokes strong reactions in the majority of people. This, paired with the Right’s intentional efforts to portray healthcare for transgender young people as easy to access without parental involvement or even knowledge, triggers people’s protective instincts, whether they are parents or not. The reality is that every state in the country already requires parental involvement in medical care decisions for transgender young people. This underscores a key point: the real question is not whether families are involved, but whether politicians should override the decisions of parents and doctors.

On the issue of healthcare for transgender young people, focus on who should get to make these decisions—parents, families and doctors—and focus specifically on making sure parents have the freedom to get their child the care they need.

[Seventy percent of voters](#) in battleground states agree that healthcare decisions for a transgender young person should be made by parents and doctors who know best—not politicians. And [60% of adults nationwide](#) believe families should have the ability to ensure their transgender child can receive medically necessary and age-appropriate care.

Our best approach is not to litigate whether care should be available, what that care should entail, or who should be allowed to access it; rather, we should focus the conversation on who decides: families or politicians?

RECOMMENDED MESSAGES

- **Healthcare decisions for a young person who is transgender should be made by parents and doctors, who know the situation best—not by politicians.**
- *If pressed:* Banning doctors from providing healthcare to transgender young people has

serious unintended consequences. Politicians are getting in the way of doctors who have years of training and experience, are practicing according to professional standards of care, and know what is best for their patients. This is their area of expertise, not politicians’.

- *If pressed on regret:* No one ever wants someone of any age to undergo medical treatment they later wish they hadn’t. That’s why when it comes to health care for transgender youth, there’s a team of people—including the patient, doctors, mental health professionals, and more—who make a plan together, carefully monitor the care every step of the way, and make changes when needed. This process occurs over a long period of time, and it ensures a young person is always getting the right care and support to meet their medical needs.
- *If pressed on funding:* Regardless of how we feel personally about the issue, parents of transgender young people should have the right to make personal healthcare decisions with their families and their doctors just like every other parent—without government interference or fear of losing insurance coverage.

DO / DON’T GUIDANCE

DO keep any response focused on who decides (parents, families, and doctors, not politicians) when possible.

DO focus on the roles of **parents, families, and doctors**, and how politicians shouldn’t be banning parents from getting their child the care they need.

DO reassure listeners that every single state in the country requires parental involvement in order for a transgender young person to access healthcare.

DON’T use terms (e.g., “gender-affirming care”) that are unfamiliar to voters or imply that this care is different from other medical care. Instead, use everyday, relatable language like **healthcare** or **medical care**—for example, ***essential healthcare, medically necessary care.***

DON’T get baited into engaging on specific examples. Return to the point that parents or families—not politicians—should be the decision-makers on these issues.

SUMMARY

At the end of the day, it comes back to a simple, widely shared principle: parents should have the freedom to make healthcare decisions that are best for their children in consultation with doctors they trust. Efforts to restrict care for transgender young people are not about increasing parental involvement—they are about politicians inserting themselves into deeply personal family decisions. By keeping the focus on who decides, we can cut through disinformation and ground the conversation in the values voters already share.

Please contact Adrienne Kimmell (AKimmell@sparksolutions.us) for more information or to schedule a briefing.