

Vicente Gonzalez is a member of a group that supports children receiving access to gender affirming care including puberty blockers and surgery.

Vicente Gonzalez Is A Member Of The Congressional Equality Caucus

Vicente Gonzalez Is A Member Of The Congressional Equality Caucus. (“About The CEC,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed 3/28/24)



(“About The CEC,” [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), Accessed 3/28/24)

The Congressional Equality Caucus And Equality PAC Support “Gender Affirming Care” For Minors, Claiming It Is “Essential” And “Well Researched”

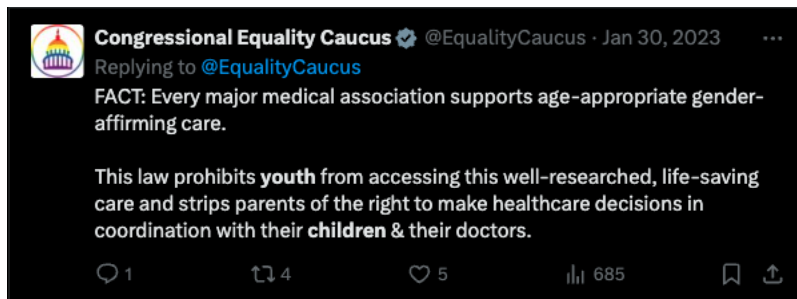
The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports “Gender-Affirming Care” For “Young People.” “House Republicans have focused on restricting access to gender-affirming care this Congress—for both young people and adults. In the first House-passed National Defense Authorization Act, Republicans adopted two amendments to restrict access to gender affirming care for transgender servicemembers and their families. In addition, the majority of Republican appropriations bills included language prohibiting funding from being used to provide gender-affirming care.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, “Obsessed: The House Republicans’ Relentless Attacks Against The LGBTQI+ Community In 2023,” [Report](#), February 24)

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports “Gender-Affirming Care,” Claiming It Is “Lifesaving” And “Essential” Care. “Last week, @HRC released a report detailing the impacts of gender-affirming care bans, including how 1 in 3 LGBTQ+ adults would move or have already moved from a state that bans this care. We must continue to defend this lifesaving & essential care.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 8/23/23)



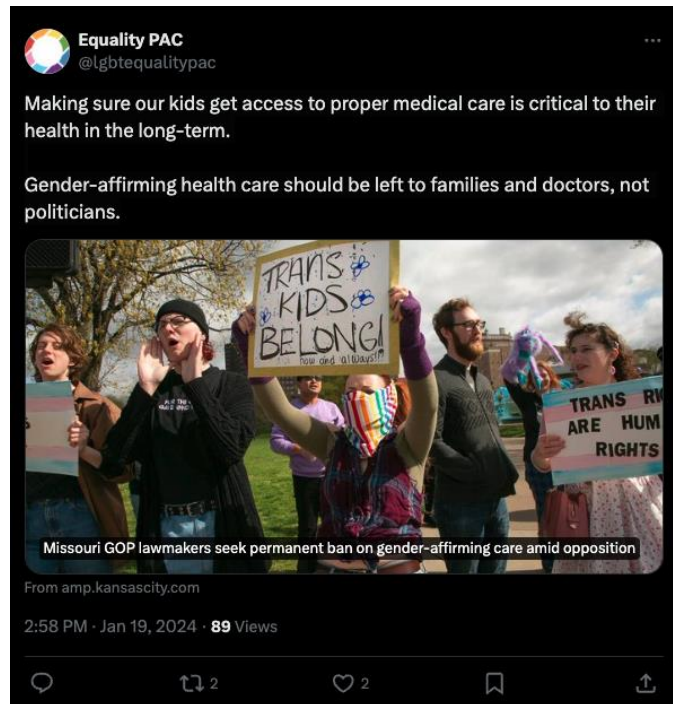
(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 8/23/23)

The Congressional Equality Caucus Claimed That “Gender-Affirming Care” Was “Well-Researched, Life-Saving Care.” “FACT: Every major medical association supports age-appropriate gender-affirming care. This law prohibits youth from accessing this well-researched, life-saving care and strips parents of the right to make healthcare decisions in coordination with their children & their doctors.” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 1/30/23)



(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 1/30/23)

The Equality PAC Supports “Gender-Affirming Health Care” For Kids. “Making sure our kids get access to proper medical care is critical to their health in the long-term. Gender-affirming health care should be left to families and doctors, not politicians.” (Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 1/19/24)



(Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 1/19/24)

The Congressional Equality Caucus And Equality PAC Support Hormone Therapy And Drug Treatments For “Gender Affirming Care” For Trans Youth

The Congressional Equality Caucus Supports “Gender-Affirming Care,” Including “Hormone Therapy” For Trans And Non-Binary Youth. “Infuriating. Gender-affirming care, including hormone therapy, is widely-accepted best practice medical care and improves mental health outcomes for trans and non-binary youth. Trans youth are not political pawns - these attacks must stop. 🏳️‍🌈” (Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 3/8/22)



(Congressional Equality Caucus, [Twitter](#), 3/8/22)

The Equality PAC Opposed The Missouri Attorney General Calling For The Halting To Drug Care For Trans Youth. “The government has no place in someone's doctor's office, and that applies to health care for trans youth as well. Trans people just want to exist. Let them.” (Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 2/14/23)



(Equality PAC, [Twitter](#), 2/14/23)

“Gender-Affirming Care” Includes Medical Care, Including Puberty Blockers And “Hormone Therapy” And In Rare Instances Can Include “Gender-Affirming Surgeries” For Minors, Including “Top Surgery” To Make Changes To The Chest And “Bottom Surgery” To Make Changes To The Genitals

According To The Human Rights Campaign, “Gender-Affirming Care” Includes Medical Care. “Gender-affirming care, sometimes referred to as transition-related care, is life-saving healthcare for transgender people of all ages. It is not a single category of services but instead is a range of services, including mental health care, medical care, and social services. At all ages, clear, well-established, evidence-based standards of care exist for who can access what form of gender affirming care, and when they are eligible to receive it.” (“Get The Facts On Gender-Affirming Care,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed 3/30/24)

On The Human Rights Campaign’s Resource On “Gender-Affirming Care” They List Puberty Blockers, Which Delay Puberty, As A Form Of Such Care. (“Get The Facts On Gender-Affirming Care,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed 3/30/24)

What are puberty blockers? Why are they used? Are they safe?

"Puberty blockers" (or simply "blockers") are a type of medication which can temporarily [pause puberty](#) and are fully reversible.

For transgender and non-binary youth who are aware of their gender at a young age, going through puberty can [cause intense distress and dysphoria](#), as it leads their body to develop into a gender that is not theirs — including in ways that are irreversible, or only reversible with surgery. For example, teenage transgender boys who do not have access to blockers will have to go through a puberty that includes growing breasts and later in life will require surgery.

(“Get The Facts On Gender-Affirming Care,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed 3/30/24)

On The Human Rights Campaign’s Resource On “Gender-Affirming Care” They List Surgeries Including “Top Surgery” To Make Changes To The Chest And “Bottom Surgery” To Make Changes To The Genitals. “There is no single gender-affirming surgery — nor does a person have to have any surgery, or a specific surgery, to be transgender. Gender-affirming surgery includes a wide range of procedures such as plastic surgery to change features in the face to be more typically masculine or feminine, ‘top surgery’ to make changes to the chest or torso or ‘bottom surgery’ to make changes to genitals.” (“Get The Facts On Gender-Affirming Care,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed 3/30/24)

The Human Rights Campaign Notes That Transgender And Non-Binary Individuals Do Not Typically Have “Gender-Affirming Surgery” Before 18, Though There Have Been Exceptions Made For 16 And 17 Year Old’s. “Transgender and non-binary people typically do not have gender-affirming surgeries before the age of 18. In some rare exceptions, 16 or 17 year-olds have received gender-affirming surgeries in order to reduce the impacts of significant gender dysphoria, including anxiety, depression, and suicidality. However, this is limited to those for whom the surgery is deemed clinically necessary after discussions with both their parents and doctors, and who have been consistent and persistent in their gender identity for years, have been taking gender-affirming hormones for some time, who have undergone informed consent discussions and have approvals from both their parents and doctors, and who otherwise meet standards of care criteria (such as those laid out by WPATH).” (“Get The Facts On Gender-Affirming Care,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed 3/30/24)

According To The AAMC, “Gender-Affirming Care” Includes Medical Interventions. “Gender-affirming care, as defined by the World Health Organization, encompasses a range of social, psychological, behavioral, and medical interventions ‘designed to support and affirm an individual’s gender identity’ when it conflicts with the gender they were assigned at birth. The interventions help transgender people align various aspects of their lives — emotional, interpersonal, and biological — with their gender identity. As noted by the American Psychiatric Association (APA), that identity can run anywhere along a continuum that includes man, woman, a combination of those, neither of those, and fluid.” (Patrick Boyle, “What Is Gender-Affirming Care? Your Questions Answered,” [AAMC](#), 4/12/22)

According To The AAMC, Interventions For Children Include “Hormone Therapy,” Whereas Surgeries Are “Rarely” Provided To People Under 18. “The interventions fall along a continuum as well, from counseling to changes in social expression to medications (such as hormone therapy). For children in particular, the timing of the interventions is based on several factors, including cognitive and physical development as well as parental consent. Surgery, including to reduce a person’s Adam’s Apple, or to align their chest or genitalia with their gender identity, is rarely provided to people under 18.” (Patrick Boyle, “What Is Gender-Affirming Care? Your Questions Answered,” [AAMC](#), 4/12/22)