

Perez Supports Taxpayer Funded Coverage Of Sex Change Surgeries, Including For People In Jail

Perez Voted Against The One Big Beautiful Bill Act, Which Would Eliminate Taxpayer Funded Gender Affirming Care

On May 22, 2025, Perez Voted Against H.R. 1, The One Big Beautiful Bill Act.

“Passage of the bill that would provide for approximately \$3.8 trillion in net tax cuts and \$321 billion in military, border enforcement and judiciary spending, offset by \$1.5 trillion in spending reductions, as instructed in the fiscal 2025 budget resolution (H Con Res 14). It would raise the statutory debt limit by \$4 trillion and provide for increased spending on defense and border security, spending cuts on social safety net programs, such as Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. It also includes a mix of tax breaks for businesses and individuals; tax increases on universities and foundations; and a phase-down of clean energy tax credits. It would reduce spending on Medicaid by \$625 billion over a 10-year period and modify eligibility and cost provisions for enrollees and health providers and impose work, volunteer and education requirements on adults ages 19 to 64 who are covered by the program. It would appropriate “such sums as necessary” for reducing cost-sharing payments for low-income individuals who’ve purchased “silver” plans on the 2010 health care law’s exchanges. But payments to plans that cover abortions would be mostly barred. It would extend and make permanent individual tax brackets and rates included in the 2017 tax overhaul law (PL 115-97) and provide for the adjustment of the lower bounds of each tier based on inflation. It would reduce federal spending on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program by requiring states to shoulder more of the cost, expand work requirements for SNAP, extend programs authorized under the 2018 farm bill, and prohibit the U.S. Department of Agriculture from increasing the cost of the Thrifty Food Program. As amended, it would cap state and local tax deductions at \$40,000 for households with incomes below \$500,000 and prohibit Medicaid funding for gender transition therapies or procedures for minors and adults, among other provisions.” (H.R. 1, [Roll Call #145](#), Passed: 215-214-1-2; R:215-2-1; D:0-212; Perez Voted Nay, 5/22/25; [CQ](#), Accessed: 6/10/25)

The One Big Beautiful Bill Act Outlines Provisions To End Taxpayer Funded Gender Affirming Care For Children And Removes Gender Affirming Care As An Essential Health Benefit (EHB) Under The Affordable Care Act.

“In a May 11 publication of section 44125 titled ‘Prohibiting federal Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) funding for gender transition procedures for minors,’ the bill stipulates that federal financial supplementation of gender transition procedure for patients under age 18 is prohibited. However, the night before the House vote, representatives amended the bill to prohibit federal financial participation in gender affirming care for patients of any age. The bill also proposes an amendment to the Affordable Care Act (ACA) that prevents ‘gender transition procedure’ from being included as an essential health benefit (EHB) for plan years beginning on or after January 1, 2027. When a particular benefit loses EHB status, the ACA no longer requires insurance plans to cover that service.” (Michelle Falci, “‘Big, Beautiful,’ Bill Prohibits Federal Funding For Gender-Affirming Care,” [Clinical Advisor](#), 6/4/25)

The Bill Prohibits Medicaid And CHIP From Funding Hormone Replacement Therapy And Puberty Blockers.

“The bill specifically prohibits Medicaid and CHIP funding for HRT, puberty blockers, and many types of surgery for trans people, but not cisgender people. Only care that is performed ‘for the purpose of intentionally changing the body of such [an] individual [...] to no longer correspond to the individual’s sex’ as assigned at birth would be prohibited should HR 1 pass.” (Samantha Riedel, “The GOP’s ‘Big Beautiful Bill’ Bans Gender-Affirming Care From Medicaid For All Ages,” [Them](#), 5/22/25)

Contributions From Groups That Support “Gender Affirming Care” For Minors Perez Has Taken \$10,000 From Organizations That Support “Gender Affirming Care” For Minors

Perez Has Taken \$10,000 From Human Rights Campaign And Planned Parenthood. ([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed: 3/14/25)

Source	Recipient	Date	Amount
Human Rights Campaign PAC	Marie for Congress	11/5/24	\$1,000.00
Human Rights Campaign PAC	Marie for Congress	9/30/24	\$2,000.00
Human Rights Campaign PAC	Marie for Congress	6/30/24	\$2,000.00
Human Rights Campaign PAC	Marie for Congress	6/15/23	\$2,500.00
Planned Parenthood Action Fund Inc PAC	Marie for Congress	10/25/22	\$2,500.00
		TOTAL:	\$10,000.00

([Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed: 3/14/25)

Human Rights Campaign Supports Puberty Blockers For Children. “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. In these instances, puberty blockers may be prescribed by doctors early in puberty, in consultation with the child, their parents and therapists, in order to temporarily stop the body from going through the unwanted physical and developmental changes of puberty. They are used to give youth time to continue exploring their gender identity before potentially moving on to more permanent transition-related care when they are older.” (“Get The Facts On Gender Affirming Care,” [Human Rights Campaign](#), Accessed: 9/28/23)

In February 2018, Human Rights Campaign Shared An Article Promoting Transgender Children And “Kids Transitioning.” (Human Rights Campaign, [Twitter](#), 2/21/18)



(Human Rights Campaign, [Twitter](#), 2/21/18)

In April 2021, Human Rights Campaign Opposed SB 1646 In Texas, A Bill To Criminalize Providing Children With Puberty Suppression Treatment, Hormones, Or Surgery For The Purpose Of Gender Transitioning. (Human Rights Campaign, [Twitter](#), 4/20/21)



(Human Rights Campaign, [Twitter](#), 4/20/21)

- **SB 1646 Would Deem It “Child Abuse” To Provide Children With Puberty Suppression Treatment, Hormones, Or Surgery For The Purpose Of Gender Transitioning.** “The Texas Senate passed a bill Tuesday in an 18-12 vote that would classify providing gender affirming health care to transgender minors as child abuse—just one of the Legislature’s many attempts to prevent transgender children from transitioning before their 18th birthday. Senate Bill 1646 is among several other bills that advocacy groups say erode the rights of transgender Texans. Authored by Lubbock Republican Sen. Charles Perry, it amends the definition of abuse under Texas Family Code to include administering or consenting to a child’s use of puberty suppression treatment, hormones or surgery for the purpose of gender transitioning.” (Megan Munce, “Gender-Affirming Medical Treatment For Transgender Kids Would Be Considered Child Abuse Under Texas Senate Bill,” [The Texas Tribune](#), 4/27/21)

Planned Parenthood Action Fund Supports “Gender-Affirming Care,” Including Puberty Blockers, Hormone Therapy, And “Gender-Affirming Surgeries.”

“Gender-affirming care is health care. We’re talking about a range of care. That includes puberty blockers, hormone therapy, gender-affirming surgery, social and legal transition aid, support groups, and more. For many trans and nonbinary people, this is essential health care.” (Prachi, “Gender Affirming Care Is Essential, Life-Saving Care,” [Planned Parenthood Action Fund](#), 11/28/23)

Planned Parenthood Action Fund Supports “Gender-Affirming Care” For Trans And Nonbinary Youth. “Gender-affirming care IS life-saving. Trans and nonbinary people deserve to live full, healthy lives. Yet, politicians across the country are hellbent on banning access to gender-affirming care, particularly for young people. Gender-affirming care is under attack. Roughly 500 anti-LGBTQ+ bills have already been introduced in 2023. 22 states have enacted laws that ban care for trans and nonbinary youth.” (Prachi, “Gender Affirming Care Is Essential, Life-Saving Care,” [Planned Parenthood Action Fund](#), 11/28/23)

Planned Parenthood Action Fund Claimed That “Gender-Affirming Care Is Health Care.” (Planned Parenthood Action, [Twitter](#), 4/15/23)



(Planned Parenthood Action, [Twitter](#), 4/15/23)

Planned Parenthood Action Fund Supports “Gender-Affirming Care” For Kids. “Banning abortion isn't the only way Texas is controlling people's access to health care. Politicians in the state are also targeting safe, legal, gender-affirming health care for trans kids.” (Planned Parenthood Action, [Twitter](#), 4/21/22)



(Planned Parenthood Action, [Twitter](#), 4/21/22)

Planned Parenthood Action Fund Supports Puberty Blockers And Hormone Therapy For Trans And Non-Binary Youth. “What is gender-affirming care? It can include treatments like puberty blockers + hormone therapy, but can also mean counseling, support groups, voice therapy and more. It’s about giving trans and non-binary youth the resources they deserve to thrive.” (Planned Parenthood Action, [Twitter](#), 2/17/23)



(Planned Parenthood Action, [Twitter](#), 2/17/23)

Planned Parenthood Federation Of America Supports “Gender-Affirming Care” For Trans And Non-Binary Youth. (Planned Parenthood, [Twitter](#), 8/5/22)



(Planned Parenthood, [Twitter](#), 8/5/22)

Planned Parenthood Federation Of America Claimed Trans Kids “Need And Deserve Gender Affirming Care.” (Planned Parenthood, [Twitter](#), 5/20/21)



(Planned Parenthood, [Twitter](#), 5/20/21)

Planned Parenthood Federation Of America Claimed “Gender-Affirming Care” Saves Lives. “Everyone deserves to feel safe and live their truth. These attacks on gender-affirming care for trans and non-binary youth put their lives and well-being at risk. Gender-affirming care saves 🙌 lives 🙌” (Planned Parenthood, [Twitter](#), 3/25/23)

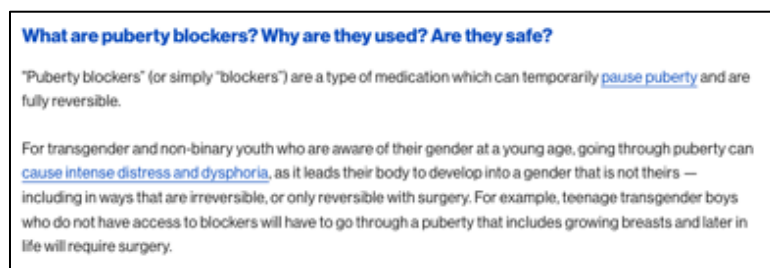


(Planned Parenthood, [Twitter](#), 3/25/23)

“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)



(“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)

A Study From A Pediatric Organization Found That “Puberty Blockers And Cross-Sex Hormones Have No Demonstrable, Long-Term Benefit On The Psychosocial Well-Being Of Adolescents With Gender Dysphoria” And Such Care Was Linked To A Higher Need For Psychiatric Care

According To The American College Of Pediatricians, “Social Transition, Puberty Blockers And Cross-Sex Hormones Have No Demonstrable, Long-Term Benefit On The Psychosocial Well-Being Of Adolescents With Gender Dysphoria.” “The American College of Pediatricians (ACPed), based in Florida, released a position statement on Feb. 7 stating that ‘social transition, puberty blockers and cross-sex hormones have no demonstrable, long-term benefit on the psychosocial well-being of adolescents with gender dysphoria.’” (Melissa Rudy, “‘Gender-Affirming’ Treatments Don’t Benefit Youth, Says Pediatricians Group: ‘Irreversible Consequences’,” [Fox News](#), 2/8/24)

According To The Vice President Of The American College Of Pediatricians, A Review Of 60 Research Papers Demonstrated No Benefit To Social Affirmation, Puberty Blockers, Cross-Sex Hormones, Or Surgical Interventions For Youth. “A review of at least 60 research papers demonstrates no benefit to social affirmation, puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones or surgical interventions for these youth,’ lead author and vice president of ACPeds, Dr. Jane Anderson, wrote in an email to Fox News Digital.” (Melissa Rudy, “‘Gender-Affirming’ Treatments Don’t Benefit Youth, Says Pediatricians Group: ‘Irreversible Consequences’,” [Fox News](#), 2/8/24)

The American College Of Pediatricians Found That The Use Of Puberty-Blocking Drugs Did Not Have Significant Benefits For Youths Experiencing Gender Dysphoria. “In terms of specific therapies, the researchers found that the use of puberty-blocking drugs — medications that delay puberty in children — did not have significant benefits for youths experiencing gender dysphoria.” (Melissa Rudy, “‘Gender-Affirming’ Treatments Don’t Benefit Youth, Says Pediatricians Group: ‘Irreversible Consequences’,” [Fox News](#), 2/8/24)

The American College Of Pediatricians Found That The Use Of Cross-sex hormonal interventions Had Little Mental Health Benefit And Were Linked To A Higher Need For Psychiatric Care. “Cross-sex hormonal interventions — treatments that trigger a transition to a desired gender — were also shown to have ‘little mental health benefit’ and were even linked to a higher need for psychiatric care, ACPeds stated.” (Melissa Rudy, “‘Gender-Affirming’ Treatments Don’t Benefit Youth, Says Pediatricians Group: ‘Irreversible Consequences’,” [Fox News](#), 2/8/24)

Puberty Blockers Have Been Warned Against In The US And Has Not Been Approved By The FDA

The FDA Hasn’t Approved Puberty Blockers For Gender-Affirming Care. “Rafferty said it’s a quickly evolving field, but said that doctors have more than a decade of peer-reviewed research to guide their patient treatment. Puberty blockers, for example, have been used for decades to pause the process in very young kids. The FDA hasn’t approved puberty blockers for gender-affirming care, but such off-label use is not unusual or illegal.” (Renuka Rayasam, “The Transgender Care That States Are Banning, Explained,” [Politico](#), 3/25/22)

Doctors In The US Have Warned Against The Usage Of Puberty Blockers. “In the US, doctors have also been warning against the use of puberty blockers for the past few years. Last year, two of the world’s top medics for gender reassignment procedures - both of whom are transgender women - publicly expressed their concern about the growing number of children being given the medication.” (Melissa Koenig, “Transgender Assistant Secretary Of Health Rachel Levine Sparks Fury By Claiming ALL Pediatricians Agree On ‘Gender-Affirming Care’ - Despite Doctors Warning Against ‘Chemical Castration’ Puberty Blockers That Have Been Linked To Infertility,” [Daily Mail](#), 5/1/22)

- **In 2021, Two Of The World’s Top Medics For Gender Reassignment Procedures Expressed Concern Regarding The Growing Number Of Children Being Prescribed Puberty Blockers.** “Last year, two of the world’s top medics for gender reassignment procedures - both of whom are transgender women - publicly expressed their concern about the growing number of children being given the medication.” (Melissa Koenig, “Transgender Assistant Secretary Of Health Rachel Levine Sparks Fury By Claiming ALL Pediatricians Agree On ‘Gender-Affirming Care’ - Despite Doctors Warning Against ‘Chemical Castration’ Puberty Blockers That Have Been Linked To Infertility,” [Daily Mail](#), 5/1/22)

Puberty Blockers Could Cause Side Effects With The Patient’s Fertility/Sterility

“Puberty Blockers Come With Side Effects — Potentially An Impact On Future Fertility And A Loss Of Bone Density, But Recent Studies Have Shown Those Effects Can Be Reversed ...” “Is gender-affirming care reversible? It depends. Puberty-blocking medications are used temporarily, and they help young people and their families figure out next steps, these doctors said. They prevent adolescents from developing gender characteristics that might be hard to later reverse, like full breast development. But they also give people time to decide whether to pursue interventions like hormone therapy. Puberty blockers come with side effects — potentially an impact on future fertility and a loss of bone density, but recent studies have shown those effects can be reversed, Rosenthal said.” (Renuka Rayasam, “The Transgender Care That States Are Banning, Explained,” [Politico](#), 3/25/22)

Most Children Prescribed Puberty Blockers Go On To Cross-Sex Hormones As Well, A Combination That Can Have Irreversible Consequences, Including Sterility And The Inability To Orgasm. “Worries about the use of puberty blockers, which are prescribed to some children to prevent the development of secondary sex characteristics (like breasts and facial hair) have been mounting in much of the rich world. Some countries

have scaled back their use. Not America. Doctors who work in transgender clinics routinely claim that prescribing such drugs is conservative, because their effects are largely reversible, and compassionate, because they save children with gender dysphoria (the feeling of being in the wrong body) from enormous distress. That may be beginning to change. Last week Abigail Shrier, a writer, published interviews in 'Common Sense With Bari Weiss', a newsletter, with two transgender health-care professionals who suggested that some doctors were irresponsible in the way they treated children. The women, both trans, are on the board of the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (wpath), which endorses the use of blockers early in puberty in some cases. Though blockers are often described as operating like a pause button, most children prescribed them go on to cross-sex hormones. This combination can have irreversible consequences, including sterility and the inability to orgasm." ("Opinion On The Use Of Puberty Blockers In America Is Turning," [The Economist](#), 10/16/21)

Other Countries Have Banned The Use Of Puberty-Blocking Medication For Children Due To Health Concerns

Several Countries Have Banned The Use Of Puberty-Blocking Medication For Those Under The Age Of 18. "But puberty blockers have been shown to have unintended side-effects as well - with several countries now banning the use of the medication for those under the age of 18." (Melissa Koenig, "Transgender Assistant Secretary Of Health Rachel Levine Sparks Fury By Claiming ALL Pediatricians Agree On 'Gender-Affirming Care' - Despite Doctors Warning Against 'Chemical Castration' Puberty Blockers That Have Been Linked To Infertility," [Daily Mail](#), 5/1/22)

In Sweden, There Were Several Instances Of Transgender Children Who Suffered Catastrophic Injuries Due To Puberty Blockers, Including Liver Damage, Unexplained Weight Gains, And Skeletal Damage. "He is one of 13 transgender children of the 440 treated by the country's famous Karolinska University Hospital who were found by a Swedish television crew to have suffered catastrophic injuries as a result of the puberty blockers." (Melissa Koenig, "Transgender Assistant Secretary Of Health Rachel Levine Sparks Fury By Claiming ALL Pediatricians Agree On 'Gender-Affirming Care' - Despite Doctors Warning Against 'Chemical Castration' Puberty Blockers That Have Been Linked To Infertility," [Daily Mail](#), 5/1/22)