

Media Release - 28 January 2025

Transcend Australia Condemns Queensland Government's Harmful Decision to Restrict Gender-Affirming Care for Trans Young People

Transcend Australia, a national service provider for families of trans young people holds significant concerns for the Queensland's Health Minister Tim Nicholls decision to pause accepting new patients under 18 years for gender-affirming care. This decision keeps young people away from the care they desperately need while being made to wait for an inquiry into gender-affirming healthcare and the use of hormone therapies.

Jeremy Wiggins, CEO Transcend Australia says this decision threatens the safety and lives of trans young people and their families in Queensland.

“All Queenslanders deserve access to healthcare without government interference. Political involvement in private medical care, not founded on the current evidence base, is deeply troubling. The harmful political targeting of trans children and young people must end,” said Mr Wiggins.

Gender-affirming care and medical treatment has always required parental consent, and by law, parents are deeply involved in the process.

“Parents want their children to receive the healthcare they need without interference from anti-trans activists or governments using them for political purposes. Families simply want care and to be respected, and allowed to live their lives in peace,” said, Mr Wiggins.

Transcend Australia urges the Queensland Government and Minister Nicholls to meet with Queensland families and their trans children, to better understand their situations and to recognise that a small, marginalised community is facing unprecedented public attack.

Queensland families will continue to be supported by Transcend Australia, ensuring they have the evidence-based information they need to support their children, and can access the right health care pathways for them.

Transcend Australia urges the public to understand the level of political hostility being directed at trans communities and to show support for under resourced organisations like Transcend by donating, so they can keep supporting trans young people and their families.

To **donate** or **book an appointment** with our service team, visit www.transcend.org.au.

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