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Attorneys for Proposed Intervenor

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF OREGON
PORTLAND DIVISION

PARENTS FOR PRIVACY; KRIS GOLLY
and **JON GOLLY**, individually [and as
guardians ad litem for A.G.]; **LINDSAY**
GOLLY; NICOLE LILLIE; MELISSA
GREGORY, individually and as guardian ad
litem for T.F.; and **PARENTS RIGHTS IN**
EDUCATION, an Oregon nonprofit corporation,

Case No. 3:17-cv-01813-HZ

DECLARATION OF COLLEEN YEAGER
IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO
INTERVENE

Plaintiffs,

PAGE 1 - DECLARATION OF COLLEEN YEAGER IN SUPPORT OF BASIC RIGHTS
OREGON'S MOTION TO INTERVENE

v.

DALLAS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2;
OREGON DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION; GOVERNOR KATE
BROWN, in her official capacity as the
Superintendent of Public Instruction; and
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION; BETSY DEVOS, in her official
capacity as United States Secretary of Education
as successor to **JOHN B. KING, JR.; UNITED**
STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE;
JEFF SESSIONS, in his official capacity as
United States Attorney General, as successor to
LORETTA F. LYNCH,

Defendants.

I, Colleen Yeager, declare as follows:

1. I am a resident of Portland, Oregon.
2. I submit this declaration in support of Basic Rights Oregon (“BRO”)’s motion to intervene, in order to explain my interest in this litigation as a BRO supporter, volunteer, and donor.
3. My family and I have been supporters of BRO since 2013. We have made monthly contributions to BRO since 2016 to support the work they do on behalf of LGBTQ Oregonians.
4. Our family has also participated in phone banking and major gifts fundraising for BRO, lobbied our state legislature for transgender anti-discrimination protections, and marched in the Pride Parade with BRO.
5. In 2017, we joined BRO’s Fierce Family Group, which seeks to engage family members in creating safe and affirming communities for transgender individuals in every corner of Oregon.
6. I am the mother and legal guardian to a seven-year-old son.
7. My son is transgender. While he was assigned the sex female at birth, he knew from a very young age that he was a boy. He started emphatically verbalizing his gender to us around

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OREGON’S MOTION TO INTERVENE

age five, though the signs were there for at least two years prior, including gender expressions consistent with that of being a boy, but sadly, also depression, aggression, and self-harm.

8. My son is in second grade in the Portland Public Schools system. His school has been amazing, and has recognized him as the boy he is since day one, including allowing him to use the boys' restrooms like the rest of the boys in his class. I cannot imagine how difficult our lives, and most importantly, my son's life, would be if they had not been supportive.

9. The support from my son's teachers and administrators has been instrumental in allowing him to be himself at school, and to focus on his learning, which had suffered dramatically during his first year of school due to his depression. His Kindergarten teacher supported him in coming out to his classmates, who have largely been affirming and supportive in response.

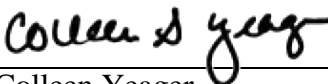
10. Transgender kids are some of the most vulnerable children there are. In addition to support from their families, support from their school is everything. They spend five days a week, seven hours a day in that community, and need to feel human.

11. When districts do not have inclusive policies, it sends a strong message to students' peers that they are being singled out as different. It is critical that transgender students like my son are able to participate in school as the gender they are, like the rest of their peers.

12. I make this declaration from my own knowledge of the facts and circumstances set forth above. If necessary, I could and would testify to these facts and circumstances.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED: February 20, 2018


Colleen Yeager