

Hello -

Can you please enter this into the record of written testimony on HF435? Thank you!!

My name is Track Trachtenberg; I am a MN resident and the former Trans Equity Project Coordinator for the City of Minneapolis. I'm writing in opposition to HF435. Forcing trans women to be housed in men's prisons, rather than in MCF-Shakopee, makes it more likely than not that they will be raped, likely multiple times, during their sentence. Trans people are one of the favorite new scapegoats of our political moment, but history will show the callousness of those who go along with that scapegoating. I am ashamed to live in a place that even considers going along with this violent trend. Trans women are the ones at risk, not the ones putting others at risk, in prisons and everywhere else they are being scapegoated. I assume you don't want to be known for causing additional violence and trauma, and if you do, I hope you can look that fact in the face and say that explicitly - that you are looking to put women in men's prisons, intentionally exposing them to high risks of rape, sexual assault, and harassment from guards and fellow prisoners, and cruel and unusual punishments including unnecessary time in solitary confinement.

Thank you.