

From: [Peel, Jackson](#)
To: [Press](#)
Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: House Democratic Caucus Responds to Anti Trans Kids Bill Signed by Governor
Date: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 11:46:34 AM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 1, 2021

CONTACT

Jackson Peel
Communications Director
House Democratic Caucus
Jackson.Peel@MyFloridaHouse.gov
850-717-5297

**House Democratic Caucus Responds to Anti Trans Kids Bill
Signed by Governor**

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Today, on the first day of Pride Month, Governor Ron DeSantis signed [SB 1028](#) into law, which will bar any trans girl from participating in school sports. This is part of a [nationwide attack](#) on trans rights by the GOP, despite the fact that bill supporters could not point to any cases of this being a problem in Florida.

Members of caucus issued the following statements:

Co-Leader Bobby DuBose (D- Fort Lauderdale) said, “Let’s be very clear: Governor DeSantis and the GOP are attacking trans kids on the first day of Pride Month to solve a problem that doesn’t exist. This is part of a wave of hundreds of anti-LGBTQ bills introduced nationwide as part of their culture war agenda. This law is mean-spirited, divisive, and could cost Floridians millions of dollars in both economic damage and lawsuits. Florida’s kids didn’t need this.”

Representative Fentrice Driskell (D- Tampa) added, “Floridians are facing real problems right now, but the Governor chooses to attack and villainize trans children for political gain. This law fuels dangerous bigotry against some of our most vulnerable young people. And to sign this bill on the first day of Pride Month is an obvious intentional insult to the LGBTQ community.”

Representative Carlos Guillermo Smith (D- Orlando) said, “Appalling. First day of LGBTQ Pride Month and Governor Ron DeSantis signs SB 1028 which bans trans kids from school sports. FHSAA has allowed trans kids to participate in FL since 2013 with ZERO problems. This fuels transphobia and puts vulnerable kids at risk for no good reason.”

Representative Michele Rayner (D- St. Petersburg) added, “Today, on the 1st day of Pride Month, instead of choosing to embrace everyone, especially the LGBTQ community, the Governor has chosen to attack trans kids, our most vulnerable citizens. He has chosen political theater over protecting children, and his political ambitions over the wide variety of voices asking him to veto this hateful bill. While I am discouraged that this bill is now law, this does not hinder my commitment to fight for an equitable Florida that embraces everyone and celebrates them for who they are.”

###

###