



REBECCA PAUL MP
Member of Parliament for Reigate

Jamie Stone MP
Chairman of Petitions Committee
House of Commons
Westminster
London
SW1A 0AA

10 February 2026

Dear Mr Stone,

e-petition 751839 & Ensuring Parity of Opportunity for Parliamentary Debate

We are writing to you in your capacity as Chair of the Commons Petitions Committee to raise a growing concern as to the committee's approach to the scheduling of debates on two e-petitions relating to questions of gender and sex.

On 19 May 2025, a Westminster Hall Debate was held in relation to e-petition 701159 (allow transgender people to self-identify their legal gender). The sitting began at 4.30pm and concluded at 6.52pm, meaning the debate ran for almost the full allocated time of two hours thirty minutes.

By sharp contrast, e-petition 751839 (cancel the clinical trial into puberty blockers & safeguard vulnerable children) which has received 13,000 more signatures than the above-mentioned e-petition 701159, is scheduled for debate on Monday 9 March at 4.30pm – but with just ninety minutes of allocated time.

We are sure you would not dispute that the e-petition supporting the cancellation of the clinical trial into puberty blockers is of great importance and public interest. As you are no doubt aware, these highly vulnerable children could see a detrimental impact in their sexual function, fertility and health as a consequence of participating. We therefore consider it extremely important that everyone who wants to speak during this debate has sufficient time and opportunity to do so.

We would urge the Committee to look at the time allocation to this petitions debate as a matter of urgency – but at the very least we would be grateful for a response setting out the Committee's reasoning for the differing time allocations.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Paul MP
Member of Parliament for Reigate

Rosie Duffield MP
Rupert Lowe MP
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