

*CBS Mornings*

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[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Protests Over Silenced Transgender Lawmaker; Zooey Zephyr Silenced After Comments on Anti-Trans Bill]

GAYLE KING: Now to Montana and the growing outrage over the treatment of a transgender lawmaker. Public protests in the legislature were met with police in riot gear on Monday. This was the third straight session that Democratic state representative Zooey Zephyr was barred from speaking over a comment she made about a bill to ban gender-affirming care. She now says she could face censure or expulsion from the chamber later today at the hands of the Republican majority. Meg Oliver has more on this story.

PROTESTERS: Let her speak.

MEG OLIVER: Standing defiantly, Monday, Montana House Representative Zooey Zephyr raised her arm holding a microphone to amplify the voices of her supporters demanding she no longer be silenced.

[PROTESTERS SCREAMING]

OLIVER: The freshman lawmaker who is transgender tweeted last night that she faces expulsion or censure later today. That's after Republican House leaders announced they would vote whether her actions violated the safety, dignity, or decorum of the House of Representatives.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE MATT REGIER (R-MT): No representative is above our House rules.

OLIVER: For over a week, Zephyr has been barred from speaking on the House floor until she apologized for her comments opposing a Republican bill banning gender-affirming care for minors.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE ZOOEY ZEPHYR (D-MT): If you vote yes on this bill and yes on these amendments, I hope the next time there is an invocation, when you bow your heads in prayer, you see the blood on your hands.

OLIVER: Montana's Republican House Speaker deemed those comments out of line and that they broke House decorum.

ZEPHYR: We're elected to have the hard conversations.

OLIVER: Speaking to John Dickerson last night on CBS News Streaming, Zephyr says she is not apologizing for what she said. And in fact, she would say it again.

ZEPHYR: When marginalized communities, communities who are impacted the most by legislation rise up and speak to the harm, those folks in power, particularly on the far right do not want to be held accountable for real harm that these bills bring.

OLIVER: For *CBS Mornings*, I'm Meg Oliver.

[PROTESTERS SCREAMING]