



HB1204: Written Testimony - SUPPORT

February 26, 2020

Dear Chair Kaiser, Vice-chair Washington, and Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

We are writing on behalf of PFLAG-MetroDC in **Support of HB1204 - Inclusive Schools Act**, which would prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity in K-12 public schools, and schools that receive public funding.

The specific protections extended to students in the LGBTQ+ community are crucial. These students often are very vulnerable and can face discrimination based on their identity. Special protections are required to ensure LGBTQ+ students receive the same equal treatment as their peers.

Everyone deserves a safe and equal learning environment. We ask you to support this bill to make sure Maryland's school districts create written anti-discrimination policies to protect these students. It is important to set a standard of equality and acceptance with our students.

We urge a **Favorable Report on HB1204**.

Thank you,

Nicolle Campa She|Her|Hers
Metro DC PFLAG
Board President

Mark Eckstein He|Him|His
Metro DC PFLAG
MD Advocacy Chair

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