

Planned Parenthood of Maryland

Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee

Bill: HB 361 - Certificates of Birth - Issuance of New Certificates - Sex Designation (Birth Certificate Modernization Act)

Hearing Date: February 21, 2023

Position: Support

Planned Parenthood of Maryland (PPM) supports *HB 361 - Certificates of Birth - Issuance of New Certificates - Sex Designation (Birth Certificate Modernization Act)*. The bill has two critical provisions:

- Recognizes that gender identify should be determined by the individual and not the health care community. Individuals could change gender on birth certifications without the endorsement of a health care practitioner; and
- Establishes a non-binary category for gender identity. This change is critical, as birth certificates should align with an individual's identity and not force them two choose between a male and female option.

As a provider of gender-affirming care, we strongly support legislation that realigns our laws to recognize transgender and nonbinary individuals. We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or (443) 926-3443.