

JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR.
County Executive



JENNIFER AIOSA
Director of Government Affairs

AMANDA KONTZ CARR
Legislative Officer

WILLIAM J. THORNE
Legislative Associate

BILL NO.: **HB 602**

TITLE: Employment Discrimination – Sexual Orientation

SPONSOR: Speaker Jones

COMMITTEE: Economic Matters

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: February 21, 2024

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 602 – Employment Discrimination – Sexual Orientation. This legislation prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in the State of Maryland.

Baltimore County supports any legislation that will advance equity and inclusion throughout the State of Maryland. State and Local governments have a responsibility to ensure that our citizens are being served in an equitable manner, and that we are doing everything in our power to celebrate diversity and advance equal opportunity. For too long, members of the LGBTQ+ community have been denied opportunities to participate in the workforce simply because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. HB 602 will finally prohibit this discrimination in workplaces across Maryland. Advancing the cause of equity and inclusion requires a concerted effort and Baltimore County is proud to support this legislation.

Accordingly, Baltimore County urges a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 602 from the House Economic Matters Committee. For more information, please contact Jenn Aiosa, Director of Government Affairs at jaiosa@baltimorecountymd.gov.