

Oppose 2024 House Bill 0691

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This bill seems to make it possible for health care professionals who provide gender affirming care, which according to this bill would be legally protected care if passed, to receive legal immunity if they follow standard protocol for gender affirming care.

Gender affirming care however has no widely accepted standard protocol. This is now proven by those countries such as Sweden, Norway, Finland and others who are abandoning gender affirming care especially for minors. This means that gender affirming care is an experimental care and as such it should not receive legal immunity in Maryland.

Last year legislators voted in a bill that allows minors to start on gender affirming care in Maryland which makes this issue even more serious. Last year thus Maryland legislation allowed experimentation on minors under the procedure called gender affirming care, and this year, this bill is pushing for giving legal immunity to health care professionals who are doing this experimental care.

Gender affirming care has many elements and when one asks about this care, one is told that parental consent is required to receive gender affirming care in case of minors. However, it is not clear that all aspects of this gender affirming care for minors is requiring parental consent.

Considering that this bill would also apply to gender affirming care allowed for minors in Maryland, I must oppose it.

Please vote against this bill.

Sincerely,