



Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee

Bill Number: HB 691 – Legally Protected Health Care - Gender-Affirming Treatment

Hearing Date: February 21, 2024

Position: Support

The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) strongly supports *House Bill 691 – Legally Protected Health Care - Gender-Affirming Treatment*. The bill expands Maryland’s shielding law to include gender-affirming care, so that people seeking gender-affirming care, their families, and their Maryland providers are safe from attempts of other states to penalize them.

Twenty-two states have banned gender-affirming care for minors, forcing families to make the difficult decision between discontinuing medically necessary care or risk traveling out-of-state. Please pass this legislation to protect Maryland providers and most importantly our patients and their families.

If we can provide any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.