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**LETTER OF SUPPORT  
HOUSE BILL 161**

February 18, 2025

Chair Atterbeary and Chair Feldman:

On behalf of the LGBTQ+ Caucus, we are writing to express our support of **HB161: Primary and Secondary Education - Comprehensive Health Education Framework - Established**. As advocates and stewards of the LGBTQ+ community, we believe this bill will protect, strengthen, and secure LGBTQ+ rights for all LGBTQ+ residents. The benefits and effects of passing the proposed legislation will create a positive and long-lasting change for all of Maryland.

HB161 aims for the State Department of Education to update the comprehensive health education framework in collaboration with the Maryland Department of Health. It requires each county board of education to create an age-appropriate curriculum consistent with this framework and establish policies, guidelines, and procedures for parents or guardians to opt out of certain topics for their students, subject to specific prohibitions and requirements. This bill would promote inclusive, current, and comprehensive health education and materials, providing students with accurate information on diverse health topics, including LGBTQ+ health issues.

Thank you for considering the bill's positive effects on the LGBTQ+ community. Please contact us with any additional questions or concerns about the bill. We appreciate your efforts to foster community and further the rights of all Marylanders.

Respectfully,

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Delegate Kris Fair,  
Chair