

HOUSE BILL 1399

J2, J1

5lr2883

By: **Delegates Arikan, Adams, Chisholm, Fisher, Ghrist, Grammer, Hartman, Hutchinson, Kipke, M. Morgan, Nawrocki, Nkongolo, Reilly, Sample-Hughes, Szeliga, Valentine, and Wivell**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2025

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Occupations – Cross-Sex Hormone Therapy for Minors – Prohibition**
3 **(Protect the Kids Act)**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a licensed health care practitioner from prescribing,
5 dispensing, or administering a cross-sex hormone or otherwise providing cross-sex
6 hormone therapy for the treatment of certain mental health diagnoses to an
7 individual who is a minor; and generally relating to cross-sex hormone therapy.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Health Occupations

10 Section 1–212.2

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – Health Occupations**

16 **1–212.2.**

17 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
18 **INDICATED.**

19 **(2) “CROSS-SEX HORMONE” MEANS A PRESCRIPTION HORMONE,**
20 **INCLUDING ESTROGEN AND TESTOSTERONE, OR HORMONE BLOCKER, INCLUDING A**
21 **TESTOSTERONE BLOCKER.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(3) “CROSS-SEX HORMONE THERAPY” MEANS A TREATMENT USED TO**
2 **DEVELOP SECONDARY SEX CHARACTERISTICS FOR AN INDIVIDUAL TRANSITIONING**
3 **FROM THE INDIVIDUAL’S ASSIGNED SEX AT BIRTH TO THE INDIVIDUAL’S**
4 **EXPERIENCED OR EXPRESSED GENDER.**

5 **(B) A HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER LICENSED UNDER THIS ARTICLE MAY**
6 **NOT PRESCRIBE, DISPENSE, OR ADMINISTER CROSS-SEX HORMONES OR OTHERWISE**
7 **PROVIDE CROSS-SEX HORMONE THERAPY FOR THE PURPOSES OF TREATING A**
8 **MENTAL HEALTH DIAGNOSIS ASSOCIATED WITH GENDER NONCONFORMITY,**
9 **INCLUDING GENDER DYSPHORIA, TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS A MINOR.**

10 **(C) A PERSON THAT VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY AND**
11 **ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING LIFE.**

12 **(D) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS**
13 **SECTION.**

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 October 1, 2025.