

SUPPORT - HB0706: Commission on LGBTQ Affairs

February 25, 2020

Dear Chair Pendergrass, Vice-chair Pena-Melnyk, and Members of the Health and Government Operations (HGO) Committee:

I am writing in **SUPPORT of HB0706: Commission on LGBTQ Affairs**. I am a parent in an LGBTQ family and I advocate on these issues through my work with PFLAG (a regional affiliate), FreeState Justice, and as Chair of an organization that represents LGBTQ students in Maryland.

This Bill would lead to very positive outcomes throughout Maryland, as it would give a Seat-at-the-Table to those in the LGBTQ community. According to Governor Hogan, these types of commissions are led by those who "...serve as ambassadors for our state's many diverse communities. I want to congratulate these hard working Marylanders for their community outreach efforts, and for their unique perspective and valuable knowledge in helping to change Maryland for the better."

I urge a **Favorable Report for HB0706**.

Thank you,

Mark Eckstein

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