



January 28, 2021

SB0098: Written Testimony - SUPPORT

Dear Chair Smith, Vice-chair Waldstreicher, and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee:

We are writing on behalf of *MetroDC PFLAG* in **Support of SB0098 - Inclusive Schools Act**, which would prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity in K-12 public schools, and schools that receive public funding.

The specific protections extended to students in the LGBTQ+ community are crucial as these students often are very vulnerable and can face discrimination based on their identity. These protections are needed to ensure LGBTQ+ students receive the same equal treatment as their peers.

Everyone deserves a safe and equal learning environment, and this bill will help make sure Maryland's school districts create written discrimination policies to protect these students.

We urge a **Favorable Report on SB0098**.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicolle Campa". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Nicolle Campa She|Her|Hers
Board President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Eckstein". The signature is cursive and elegant.

Mark Eckstein He|Him|His
MD Advocacy Chair

www.pflagdc.org

Keeping Families Together!

Metro DC PFLAG is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, volunteer organization founded in 1983 and oversees sixteen (16) PFLAG Community Groups across Washington D.C., Maryland and Virginia.

As a chapter of PFLAG, we strive to promote the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons and their families and friends through support, education, and advocacy to end discrimination and secure equal rights.