



Secular Maryland

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March 09, 2021

The Honorable William C. Smith  
Jr. Judicial Proceedings Committee  
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 East Annapolis  
Maryland 21401

Re: SUPPORT SB0768 (HB1088) Nondiscrimination and LGBTQ+ Individuals

Chairman and Members of the Committee

Secular Maryland appeals for passage of this important bill that prohibits discrimination on the basis of certain nonmerit factors, including race, color, creed, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability. This prohibition applies in the Courts and Judicial proceedings §1-801, Family Law §1-204, Housing and Community Development §2-401, and Human Services §1-301 contexts. This prohibition is also applied to contractors and grantees in the State Government §20-901 context. This aligns state law with the U.S. Constitution's Equal Protection clause.

Secular Maryland particularly welcomes the very much needed prohibition on discrimination based on creed. The state constitution Declaration of Rights perversely targets non-theists for discrimination instead of protecting non-theists from discrimination.



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