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February 22, 2022

## **SB 682 Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Gender Affirming Treatment (Trans Health Equity Act of 2022)**

### **Position: Support**

We, the board of directors of Annapolis Pride, support SB 682.

Our understanding is that Maryland's Medicaid program does not provide coverage for a number of transition-related treatments, as it has deemed them to be cosmetic.

This bill helps make access to healthcare for all Marylanders more fair and equitable. It updates our healthcare program as other states have done, to better support our trans, non-binary, and gender nonconforming community.

It specifies that the Medicaid program cannot adopt blanket denials for types of transition-related care, and instead creates a policy that medical necessity must always be determined in the context of the individual's circumstances.

**We strongly urge a favorable report on SB 682.**