

HB 1358
SUPPORT

Members of the HGO Committee,

Thank you for your time and consideration of this testimony. I support HB 1358's goal of protecting Marylanders from discriminatory policies and keeping their private medical information private.

As we've navigated the past two years, many Marylanders have become vulnerable to wholly inappropriate questioning and requirements under the pretense of safety- and it's affected every aspect of their lives, from going out to eat, to getting a college education, to being able to work. Some of these policies are absolutely disgraceful, especially for a progressive state like Maryland. They are anti-science, and completely at odds with Maryland's historical and future aspirations as an inclusive state of freedom and refuge. As with many misguided institutional policies, we can expect any inequities to impact socioeconomically disadvantaged and minority populations disproportionately. HB 1358 offers needed legislative relief for many residents of our state. I urge the committee to move this bill forward.

Respectfully,

Jenna Butler
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