

Delegate Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair
and Members of The Health and Government Operations Committee
Maryland House of Delegates
Annapolis, MD

RE: HB 746- Trans Health Equity Act of 2022- **OPPOSE**

Dear Chair Pendergrass and Members of The Committee,

For the following reasons, HB 746 is one of the most egregious bills proposed in this 2022 legislative session!

- Gender-Affirming Treatment is defined in this bill as “any medically necessary treatment...”, yet it fails to define medically necessary, thereby leaving the discretion of such to the licensed physician performing such procedures. This provides a loophole for any and all procedures pertaining to gender identity whose cost would be fully or partially funded by Medical Assistance.
- The list of treatments considered as “gender-affirming treatments” is egregious, considering the types of procedures that this bill will allow to be funded by Medical Assistance.
- This bill allows for “revisions of previous treatments and reversal of treatments. This is discriminatory to women who have sterilization procedures and then later, change their mind. Tubal reversal is considered an “elective surgery” and therefore, an out-of-pocket expense. Gender-Affirming Treatments should be considered the same.
- Medical Assistance (taxpayers) should not be responsible to pay medical costs for an individual’s decision to change their God-given gender. Should a person decide he no longer desires to be part of the gender he or she was born into, the financial responsibility to change said gender should fall upon the individual and not the state and hard-working citizens thereof.

I therefore urge that you vote an UNFAVORABLE report against HB 746- Trans Health Equity Act of 2022.

Thank you for your time,

Sarah Price (ACRWC)
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