



TESTIMONY FOR SB0377
Marriage Records – Name Change

Bill Sponsor: Senator Lee

Committee: Judiciary

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair

Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of SB0377 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of individuals and grassroots groups with members in every district in the state with well over 30,000 members.

This bill supports our trans community by allowing for a person to change their name on a marriage certificate in such a way that it doesn't inadvertently out them. It also allows for other changes to the marriage certificate to reflect more gender-neutral language. Finally, it prevents the new marriage certificate from being marked as amended.

Our members are very concerned about the difficulties that trans and other LGBTQIA persons have in trying to navigate in a world that is designed to support only heterosexual people, and we think it is important to make obvious paperwork, like marriage certificates and drivers licenses, work for them as well.

We support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.