

UNFAVORABLE

SB0460 -

Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Gender-Affirming Treatment (Trans Health Equity Act)

Jessica Helms

Capitol Heights, MD

I am writing to ask an UNFAVORABLE report on SB0460. We have seen many cases where doctors not knowing the truth about a person's birth assigned sex have caused errors in treatment that have lead to injury or death.

A baby died when the mother's medical records designated her male since doctors looked for issues they would normal see on a male and not for things a woman would present with.

Many have missed out on cancer screenings and treatments when not disclosing their birth assigned gender because, again, doctors are going to look for things associated with the gender on record if having transitioned is not disclosed.

We do not need to make doctor's jobs harder as it will delay these people getting the treatments they need.

As a former teacher, I worry about the impulsivity of teens and how this lack of true health care knowledge may affect them. I have attached an article discussing teens who regret their transition and say doctors have failed them and I encourage you to read it.

Doctors as medical experts need honest information on scientific fact - XX or XY chromosomes at birth – more than they need to know how one identifies to ensure they can give the person proper treatment.

Please return an unfavorable report on SB0460.

Thank you,

Jessica Helms

Capitol Heights, MD