

From: Gala Meyerovich gala_meyerovich@hotmail.com

Subject: Oppose SB 460

Date: February 27, 2023 at 2:11 PM

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GM

Dear Senators,

I strongly oppose SB 460 for the following reasons:

- The bill allows for abuse of taxpayer funds, since it does not do not include review of the amount spent on such procedures, independent review of the necessity of procedures, or any evaluation of benefit versus risks.
- This procedures are not reversible. There is NO AGE LIMIT in this bill!!! Gender-affirming treatments are suitable only for adults and only after substantial mental health or psychological evaluation.
- Since the bill requires the Medical Assistance Program to cover all costs, schools and doctors may influence and coerce children to undergo such procedures. Even providers who have financial interest in such procedures may be able to recommend them to vulnerable children.
- The bill talks about medical necessity but does not describe whether the program covers the cost of evaluating the medical necessity.
- Some school systems allow recommending such treatments to children and hiding it from parents. Expenses covered by a state program completely excludes parents from the evaluation and decision making process, which is absolutely ENACCEPTABLE.

Sincerely,
Gala Meyerovich
A resident of Montgomery County, MD
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