

## Opposition to SB460 – Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Gender Affirming Treatment

I am writing in opposition to SB460 primarily because government has no business influencing children regarding a highly controversial political ideology. Furthermore, I do not want my tax funds involved in what likely will be an extremely invasive and unnecessary surgery on a minor which could lead to health complications as well as severe emotional issues when this child becomes an adult.

There is evidence now being made public that demonstrates how children were convinced by adults who were supposed to be their care providers that they were “in the wrong body.” Now, these young adults realize that they were not trapped in the wrong body and they seek to try to reverse the damage (de-transitioning) that has been done via surgery or hormones. In most cases, the damage cannot be done. It is even more unconscionable that this bill specifically targets underprivileged children for it’s science experiment.

In closing, I will ask you, have you forgotten what occurred during the Tuskegee Experiment? Apparently you have. For forty years, the U.S. Public Health Service with the CDC, experimented on Black men to study syphilis. The CDC even admits now that informed consent was not obtained by the male participants (<https://www.cdc.gov/tuskegee/timeline.htm>). These men were also not treated for syphilis and were only told that they were being studied for “bad blood.” More than one hundred of these men died as a result of the irresponsibility, callousness and recklessness of the government. Today, this study is recognized for one of the most egregious violations of human treatment and lack of ethical standards in medicine. The political transgender ideology stands to repeat this human travesty. This ideology is not rooted in biological science. It is a business where the medical community profits off of human misery and emotional issues by convincing children and young adults that they are trapped in the wrong gender. What’s worse, when these patients realize years later that they were lied to by those in a position of trust, and there is no hope of reversing the damage done.

**OUR KIDS ARE NOT A GOVERNMENT EXPERIMENT.**

Eleanor Jones  
Carroll County