

Testimony in Support of HB 283
Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Gender-Affirming Treatment
Trans Health Equity Act of 2023
Health and Government Operations Committee
February 14, 2023

Marcelina Kubica
Baltimore, District 46

Chair Peña-Melnyk and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the chance to testify in support of House Bill 283. My name is Marcelina Kubica. I live in District 46. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB 283, the Trans Health Equity Act, which would expand Maryland Medicaid to cover lifesaving gender-affirming care.

The Trans Health Equity Act (THEA) addresses a critical gap in the healthcare of transgender Marylanders by ensuring Medicaid coverage for gender-affirming healthcare. Currently, Maryland Medicaid excludes many gender-affirming procedures. There is consensus in the medical community that these procedures are medically necessary and reduce suicide, abuse, discrimination, and harassment. THEA is a low-cost solution that improves the quality of life of trans Marylanders, brings Maryland Medicaid into compliance with federal law, and meets current medical standards.

I believe that HB 283 is important because I have seen firsthand the impact that gender-affirming care can have on the wellbeing of transgender individuals. My friends who have had access to full care have been able to finally feel safe, comfortable, and healthy within their own bodies. Creating equal access to expanded forms of gender-affirming care is key to health equity and justice, and thus House Bill 283 is an important expansion of Medicaid to support important health rights.

Please do what you can to support this community. I strongly urge you to support HB 283.

Thank you for your consideration,

Marcelina Kubica
23 S Regester, Baltimore, MD 21231