

HB 426 Transgender Agency, Respect, and Dignity Act

Position: SUPPORT

Hello,

My name is Michael English, and I'm writing to strongly support HB 426, the Transgender Agency, Respect, and Dignity Act, and urge the committee to issue a favorable report.

Peoples' need, and right, to be treated with dignity, respect, and safety don't go away when they enter the criminal justice system, and trans Americans already face increased discrimination, risk of violence, harassment, and just general discrimination even in the best of scenarios. All incarcerated people are still people, and incarcerated trans people need protections to make sure they are treated with the respect, due care, and fairness as other people in the criminal justice system.

This bill would go a long way towards ensuring such treatment by prohibiting anti-trans discrimination, demanding the development of related policies, establishing guidelines to protect and respect gender identity, and establishing monitoring processes and mandatory reports on the treatment of said incarcerated people.

I urge the Committee to issue a Favorable with Amendments report on HB 426.

Thank you,

Mike English
8005 13th Street
Unit 304
Silver Spring, MD
20910