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CECIL COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Cecil County Administration Building 200 Chesapeake Boulevard, Elkton, MD 21921

February 14, 2024

The Honorable Pamela Beidle The Honorable Katherine Klausmeier Finance Committee 3 East Miller Senate Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 0119 - Legally Protected Health Care - Gender-Affirming Treatment Letter of Opposition

Dear Chairman Beidle, Vice Chair Klausmeier and Members of the Finance Committee,

The County Council and the County Executive of Cecil County unanimously oppose SB 0119 - Legally Protected Health Care - Gender-Affirming Treatment. The hearing on this legislation is scheduled for February 15, 2024.

It is our understanding that this legislation is altering the definition of "legally protected health care" to include certain gender-affirming treatment, including medications and supplies, for the purposes of certain provisions of law that prohibit health occupations disciplinary actions and certain actions in criminal and civil proceedings and the use of certain resources in furtherance of certain investigations and proceedings related to legally protected health care.

Supporting the rights of parents in the medical care of a minor is of the upmost importance to all our citizens and this bill will have an adverse impact on these rights. Cecil County strongly opposes this legislation.

The County Executive and County Council of Cecil County respectfully request that the Finance Committee send an unfavorable report on SB 0119.

Sincerely,

Danielle Hornberger County Executive

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Jackie Gregory President of County Council

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