

Emily Tarsell, LCPC

**2314 Benson Mill Road
Sparks, Maryland 21152
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Favorable HB1422 (SB 914)

Human Relations - Protections Against Discrimination - Genetic Procedures

Dear Chair and HGO Committee Members,

I am Emily Tarsell, a mother, licensed therapist and founder of Health Choice Maryland, a large grassroots non-profit organization that advocates for health choice and informed consent. We support HB1422 which adds an important protection against discrimination.

There is nothing more sacred than the right to control and decide what happens to one's own body. One should not be discriminated against for exercising that right.

We are witnessing an explosion in experimental genetic engineering processes which can impact one's health. Whether or not to undergo such treatments or participate in using them should always be a legally protected personal right. This bill should become law to ensure that each individual has the right to chose to decline any genetic procedure without being discriminated against.

Please vote **FAVORABLE** for HB1422 . **Thank you.**

Emily Tarsell, LCPC