

Support HB 722

Dear Chair and members of the committee,

WPATH experts continue discussing the need for research of the broader and long-term effects of the “standard” treatments. What’s worse is that many patients belong to vulnerable groups, such as on the autism spectrum:

<https://youtu.be/TCYXNxK3oGw?t=1480>

Dr. Kaltiala, a prominent expert in gender-affirming care, openly expresses concern about the risks of such treatments:

<https://www.thefp.com/p/gender-affirming-care-dangerous-finland-doctor>

Expert gender-affirming surgeons certify that the treatments are experimental and require innovative decisions by the doctors in order to accomplish desired effects:

<https://youtu.be/qAqNCo7RTWI?t=90>

Dr. Biggs testified in a legislature that the research has not yet established clear benefits, while certain risks become apparent:

<https://youtu.be/THPv11HdtaQ>

Rather than acknowledge the risks and do everything possible to protect the vulnerable children, the school system and medical community strive to remove any possibility of parental objection, as continues to manifest in professional guidance:

<https://marylandpublicschools.org/about/Documents/DSFSS/SSSP/SafeSpaces/LGBTQ-Compaign-Document.pdf>

It is hard to imagine that a minor would be able to make a fully informed decision about such life-altering treatments. A provider has a financial interest in providing such care and may have legal immunity. Thus, a parent or guardian, who may be able to better assess the risks, must be involved from the beginning and every step of the way to guard the best interest of the child.

Please vote favorably.

Sincerely,
Mark Meyerovich
Gaithersburg, MD
District 15