

3/6/2024

To: The Honorable members of the House Government Operations (HGO) Committee

Re: Support for HB1422

Dear Committee members:

I enthusiastically support HB 1422.

The Government or a private entity should never discriminate against another human being due to refusing a genetic treatment of any type. Our society abhors discrimination, and this is no different than any other discrimination and should be prohibited as the bill requires.

We must reject the idea of requiring anyone to accept a particular medical procedure and especially a procedure that involves genetic material or the possible alteration of DNA. This is a bizarre concept that the Government or a private entity would discriminate against a healthy, hard working, tax paying citizen. Why would any entity be able to use the weapons of discriminatory exclusion in order to coerce their fellow citizen to a medical procedure of treatment they do not want? This discrimination and coercion has no place in Maryland or anywhere when it comes to personal medical decision making. We must outlaw discrimination based on personal health decisions and all the more so when involving genetic procedures.

Thank you for considering my testimony in support of HB 1422.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian Finglass". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Brian Finglass