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CECIL COUNTY GOVERNMENT

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

February 14, 2024

The Honorable Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk The Honorable Bonnie Cullison Health and Government Operations Committee Room 241 House Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 0722 – Health – Minors – Gender and Sex Transition Procedures Letter of Support

Dear Chairwoman Pena-Melnyk, Vice Chair Cullison and Members of the Health and Government Operations Committee:

The County Council and the County Executive of Cecil County unanimously support HB 0722 – Health – Minors – Gender and Sex Transition Procedures. The hearing on this legislation is scheduled on February 21, 2024.

It is our understanding that this legislation is prohibiting a health care provider from knowingly engaging in or causing certain medical or surgical procedures to be performed on a minor without the consent of the parent, guardian, or custodian of the minor if performed for the purpose of attempting to alter the appearance of, or affirm the minor's perception of, the minor's gender or sex and the appearance or perception is inconsistent with the minor's sex; establishing certain penalties for a violation of the Act.

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 supports this legislation.

The County Executive and County Council of Cecil County respectfully request that the Health and Government Operations Committee send a favorable report on HB 0722.

Sincerely,

Danielle Hornberger County Executive

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Jackie Gregory President of County Council

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