

Testimony in favor of SB 0314 – Birth Certificate Modernization Act

Finance and Judicial Proceedings Committees

February 3, 2025

Esteemed chairs and members of the committees,

I'm writing to you as a trans, nonbinary Maryland parent at a very difficult time. The ability for transgender parents like myself to be able to ensure that our records match our legal names, legal sex and social gender presentation is vital now more than ever. I can attest to the burden of trying to update all necessary documents and to the awkward, scary and sometimes dangerous interactions that happen to trans folks when our documents do not match. This has material consequences for the lives of your constituents. I wish that this legislation was not necessary, but it is critical – especially now. I ask you to move this legislation forward, to help trans parents like myself (and other Marylanders) to be able to more easily access needed documents and services.

Thank you for all you do for Maryland.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sam Zisow-McClean', with a stylized, looping design.

Sam Zisow-McClean

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