SB 314 SUPPORT

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Certificates of Birth, Licenses, and Identification Cards - Sex Designation (Birth Certificate Modernization Act)

House of Delegates Committee on Health and Government Operations Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at 2:00pm

Dear Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Hayes, Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the Senate Finance and Judicial Proceedings Committees,

My name is Lammot du Pont. I live in Baltimore City with my spouse and our four-year-old son. I am in support of Senate Bill 314.

All Marylanders should have access to accurate, government-issued identification documents that are used in countless financial, health care, benefits, and other transactions on a daily basis. The current process makes it difficult, if not impossible, for individuals to correct and/or update important information regarding their name and gender identification. Without clear guidance, accessing core government services like accurate identification documents will be left to individual staff discretion and create confusion and delays for applicants trying to navigate the process.

The Maryland General Assembly should pass SB 314 to clarify the expectations regarding updating birth certificates to accurately reflect a parent's legal name change and gender identification. Transgender Marylanders and their families deserve the same access to accurate, government-issued identification as every Marylander.