



Committee: Senate Finance Committee

Bill: Senate Bill 314 - Certificates of Birth, Licenses, and Identification Cards - Sex Designation (Birth Certificate Modernization Act)

Hearing Date: February 5, 2025

Position: Support

The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) supports *Senate Bill 324 - Certificates of Birth, Licenses, and Identification Cards - Sex Designation (Birth Certificate Modernization Act)*. The bill allows the Maryland Secretary of Health to issue a new birth certificate with a sex designation of female, male, or unspecified or another. The new birth certificate cannot show any markings that it was changed. The legislation also removes the requirement that a healthcare provider attests to an individual having undergone treatment for transition.

ACNM supports recognizing the spectrum of gender identities, which include non-binary identities.ⁱ Marylanders should not be forced to choose a binary option on their birth certificates. People should also not have to undergo treatment, including full transition care, to modify a birth certificate that reflects their identity.

Transgender individuals face hostile environment with increasing attacks on their wellbeing and safety.ⁱⁱ This legislation helps mitigate safety risks by their birth certificates match their identities.

We ask for a favorable report on this legislation. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or (443) 926-3443.

ⁱ American College of Nurse-Midwives. Use of Culturally Appropriate Terminology for Gender Diverse Populations. Silver Spring, MD. American College of Nurse-Midwives; 2017

ⁱⁱ <https://reports.hrc.org/an-epidemic-of-violence-2024>