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February 05, 2025

Unfavorable SB 314

Certificates of Birth – Sex Designation

Dear Chair Beidle and Finance Committee Members,

I am Emily Tarsell, a mother, licensed mental health therapist and founder of Health Choice Maryland. I write to ask for an Unfavorable vote for SB314 for the following reasons.

Nature does not have a category of “Other” for human biological sex identity. Since the dawn of humanity, Nature has bestowed on humans genitalia that is either male or female. Since this bill addresses “birth” certificates, it would be erroneous to create a category of “Other” which does not exist at birth and is incongruent with Nature and reality.

I understand and I am sympathetic to the fact that there are persons who, overtime, feel that they don't identify with the sex congruent with the organs with which they were born. That does not mean that the birth certificate should be changed. Rather, it suggests that such persons might obtain a supplemental ID certificate attesting to a sex identity change when and if, as adults, they are mature enough to make such a decision.

To recap, birth certificates should not be altered for those who do not identify with the sex congruent with the organs with which they were born. Rather, there could be a supplemental ID created for those, who as adults, wish to declare an alternative sexual identity. Please vote **Unfavorable for SB 314**.

Thank you.

Emily Tarsell, LCPC