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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB0314 Certificates of Birth, Licenses, and Identification
Cards - Sex Designation (Birth Certificate Modernization Act)

1/29/2025

TO: Chair Beidle, Chair Smith, and members of the Senate Finance & Judicial Proceedings
Committees

FROM: Ayla Hurley

Members of the Senate Finance & Judicial Proceedings Committees, my name is Ayla Hurley, I live in Columbia, Maryland, and I am writing to urge you to support SB 314, the Birth Certificate Modernization Act.

As mundane and effort-ridden as updating any personal paperwork is, ensuring that all of the information contained therein is correct and accurate is essential. Streamlining individuals' ability to ensure that all of their relevant personal documentation accurately reflects one's identity - including birth certificates, drivers licenses, and state ID cards - will save time, effort, money, and people-hours at a number of levels throughout state operations. 14-16 other states have similar systems in place to do just what this bill will do, and Maryland will be a safer place for its marginalized citizens in joining their ranks.

This will help Marylanders prove their relationships to their own children, will correctly reflect Maryland parents' with X gender markers on their children's birth certificates, and will ensure that all birth certificates are able to be updated for accuracy. Especially with the uphill battles coming up at various levels of government, I want our Marylanders to be able to live their authentic selves with safety and support. As a cisgender Marylander myself, I want my trans and non-binary loved ones' lives to be supported by our state legislature, and this is a huge step towards creating that safe, supported environment for them in their everyday lives.

In a time of increasing visceral uncertainty over trans and non-binary folks' safety, I urge you to please support SB 314 and provide one solace for the future. Thank you.