

Emily Newton
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District 43A

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1368- Certificates of Birth, Licenses, and Identification Cards - Sex Designation (Birth Certificate Modernization Act)

02/19/2025

TO: Chair Pena-Melnyk and members of the House Health and Government Operations Committee

Members of the House Health and Government Operations Committee, My name is Emily Newton and I live in Baltimore, Maryland. I am writing in support of the Birth Certificate Modernization Act.

As a member of our community and a friend for those in the LGBTQ community, I feel this bill is vital to ensure everyone has documentation (e.g., passport, license, etc) that accurately reflects who they are. I am also a clinical psychologist who works with individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder, of which, where there is a large non-binary and transgender population. As an active advocate for these individuals, I am asking for your support for this bill.

I urge you to support HB 1368 and help ensure that everyone is able to have their documents accurately who they are.

Thank you,

Emily Newton, PsyD, BCBA