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District 13

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB1368 Certificates of Birth, Licenses, and Identification  
Cards - Sex Designation (Birth Certificate Modernization Act)  
2/18/2025

TO: Chair Pena-Melnyk, Chair Korman, and members of the Health and Government Operations  
& Environment and Transportation Committees  
FROM: Ayla Hurley

Members of the House the Health and Government Operations & Environment and  
Transportation Committees, my name is Ayla Hurley, I live in Columbia, Maryland, and I am  
writing to urge you to support HB 1368, 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 HB 1368 and provide one solace for the future. Thank you.