



TESTIMONY AGAINST HB1399

Health Occupations - Cross-Sex Hormone Therapy for Minors -
Prohibition (Protect the Kids Act)

UNFAVORABLE

TO: Chair Delegate Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk, Vice Chair Delegate Bonnie Cullison and all members of the Health and Government Operations Committee

FROM: Lynn R. Mortoro, member of the Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network. (MEPPN)

DATE: March 11, 2025

Chair Delegate Pena-Melnyk, Vice Chair Delegate Cullison and members of the Health and Government Operations Committee.

As a retired nurse and an Episcopalian, I am extremely disturbed that this bill has been brought up.

It has been demonstrated by people who are gender dysmorphic, family and friends and Health professionals which include physicians, nurses, psychologists and others who specialize in in this care.

Hormone therapy is never taken lightly and it should be prescribed only after extensive examinations and counseling. To put a blanket no to prescribing these life saving drugs is wrong and immoral.

There are many documented cases of children who are very young demonstrating that they are more comfortable in a sex that is not what they were assigned at birth. They deserve the same care as anyone else, not to be shamed or denied care, but to have the right to be who they feel that they are.

A quote from the Association of American Medical Colleges.

It's terrible to know what people need to live authentically, what kids need to be healthy and sometimes even to save their lives, but not be able to provide that care."

James Kroll*, MD

The Episcopal Church feels strongly about this issue.

"We affirm the rights and freedoms of transgender and gender non-conforming people, and we oppose efforts aimed at restricting their rights or limiting access to care."

The Diocese of Maryland requests an Unfavorable report