



House Health and Government Operations Committee
March 11, 2025

House Bill 1399 – *Health Occupations – Cross-Sex Hormone Therapy for Minors – Prohibition*
(*Protect the Kids Act*)
POSITION: OPPOSE

As a Pediatrician specializing in the care of Adolescents, and as a clinician who has cared for patients with gender dysphoria, I am writing to oppose HB 1399, "Health Occupations-Cross Sex Hormone Therapy for Minors-Prohibition" which prohibits the prescribing, dispensing and administration of cross sex Hormones to minors. Gender dysphoria is a diagnosis that causes great mental anguish in patients and their families. Very often, monitoring of patients, Social transition (i.e. changes in name, clothing, etc.) or the prescription of puberty blocking hormones are successful interventions for these patients. However, there are patients for whom the prescription of cross sex hormones is absolutely indicated. The prescription of these hormones, in appropriate situations, is endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Society of Adolescent Health and Medicine, as well as the American Medical Association and the American Psychological Association. The appropriate prescription of cross sex hormones, when indicated, is backed up by Gender Affirming Care Guidelines, based on peer-reviewed medical evidence, endorsed by the Endocrine Society, the worldwide society of over 18,000 hormone specialists.

A prohibition of the prescription of cross sex hormones is not a medically sound position and places the health of patients with gender dysphoria at risk.

I strongly oppose this bill.

For more information call:

Oscar Taube, M.D.
Chairperson, Committee on Adolescent Health
Maryland Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics