

Testimony on Senate Bill 626 – Favorable

Certificates of Birth, Licenses, and Identification Cards - Sex Designation (Birth Certificate Modernization Act)

Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

February 23, 2026

Dear Honorable Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Kaelin Delaney, and I am a resident and homeowner in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. I am writing in support of Senate Bill 626 (Birth Certificate Modernization Act).

There are many reasons someone may need to update their birth certificate and related state documents (like drivers licenses), from marriage, adoption, name changes, and unintentional errors in initial filing. Currently, having multiple competing birth certificates on record with different or redacted information can cause confusion when trying to apply for documents later.

This legislation would improve the process for people like me, someone who is going to get married within the next few years and will have a resulting name change in the process. I also know other people who have had to jump through a lot of hoops to update information on their birth certificate for a variety of reasons and found the process very difficult and the outcome (having multiple copies of the same thing on file) concerning and frustrating. The current process increases the likelihood of administrative errors, increasing government expense through additional administrative actions, paperwork, and fixes.

Improving this process would help move the full state towards better, more modern standards around updating your documentation and likely save both government staff and Maryland residents time and headaches.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to issue a **favorable report on SB626**.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,
Kaelin Delaney
Upper Marlboro, MD
20772
delaney.kaelin@gmail.com