

February 23, 2026

The Honorable Biedle  
Senate Finance Committee  
3 East Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr.  
Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee  
2 East Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: SUPPORT of Senate Bill 626: Certificates of Birth, Licenses, and Identification Cards  
- Sex Designation (Birth Certificate Modernization Act)**

To the Chairs, Vice Chairs, and esteemed members of the Finance and Judicial Proceedings Committees,

My name is Cass Caveney and I am a longtime resident of Silver Spring, Maryland. In 2019, I applied for and received an updated Maryland driver's license with my correct X gender marker via self attestation, the same way other attributes like height, weight, and eye color are recorded. In the nearly seven years since that day, I have not once encountered any problems with my accurate ID and no one else I know who did the same in Maryland has encountered any problems either.

I commend the Maryland General Assembly for passing SB 196 in 2019 into law via a bipartisan majority, materially improving the lives of Marylanders like myself. Now is the time to pass SB 626, the Birth Certificate Modernization Act, to extend the same extremely successful framework to Maryland birth certificates. Although I will not personally benefit from this bill, having been born in the state of Georgia, I testify in support of improving the lives of all those born in the state in which I've lived for over two decades, no matter where they reside now. The Maryland General Assembly has a chance to improve so many lives with this one simple bill.

Nothing about this bill is unprecedented. Providing an option for X gender markers on birth certificates is a common sense policy implemented by California, Colorado, Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Mexico, New Jersey, New York, Nevada, Oregon, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, and Washington, thirteen of which also allow self-attestation

**I ask the Finance Committee and the Judicial Proceedings Committee, Energy to give SB626 a favorable report.**

Thank you for your time and consideration.

February 23, 2026

Cass Caveney