

## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 626

Certificates of Birth, Licenses, and Identification Cards - Sex Designation

(Birth Certificate Modernization Act)

Health Committee

April 1, 2026

**As a transgender nonbinary Marylander, I urge a FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS report on SB 626.** I urge that Senator McKay's senate floor amendment to SB626, which calls for a specific registry of Marylanders who have changed their sex designation on their birth certificates, be removed from the bill. **This is a dangerous action to take against transgender Marylanders.** We need look no further than the state of Kansas, which, last month, suspended transgender citizen's drivers licenses with no warning or grace period overnight, all because the state had been keeping a registry of people who had changed their gender marker on their birth certificates. The house must strip the bill of this harmful amendment.

I also urge the house to strip the bill of Senator Lam's amendment, which would exclude minors from being able to change their gender marker on their BC without medical attestation. Youth are not less of a person than a grown adult and deserve the right to also make these changes without medical attestation.

SB 626 allows individuals who were born in Maryland to change the sex designation on their birth certificate to M, F, or X without additional documentation from a licensed health care practitioner. This bill will also enable parents who have undergone a legal name change to update their names on their child's birth certificate, and prohibit changed birth certificates to show signs of being amended.

**SB 626 increases the safety, life, liberty, and happiness of ALL Marylanders,** including cisgender residents. Being able to fix errors on official documentation with no undue burden is a right that belongs to all of us.

**Cisgender Americans have also faced issues when confronted with the same policies that hinder trans people.** In Arizona, a 14 year old cisgender boy, Laker Jackson was prohibited from playing on the boys basketball team at his school because

of a birth certificate clerical error that listed his gender as female<sup>1</sup> He was told he was only eligible to play on the girls team at his school. Although the youth was able to get his birth certificate amended to change his listed gender to male, the state refused to let him play even when his birth certificate was amended.

**The Birth Certificate Modernization Act will allow all Marylanders to identify themselves accurately** in a time that the state of Maryland must move with urgency to ensure protections from federal attacks on voting, via the SAVE act, for transgender and cisgender citizens alike.

**For these reasons, I urge a favorable report on SB 626.**

**–VL Buzdygon, Maryland resident of District 20.**

---

<sup>1</sup> Cunningham, J. (2025, October 17). *Valley Teen Boy told he has to play on girls team because of error on birth certificate.* 12News. Retrieved December 15, 2025, from <https://www.12news.com/article/news/local/valley/valley-teen-boy-told-play-girls-team-because-of-error-birth-certificate/75-c40779ce-9f50-4dfc-8a19-1ba2bc8da9c5>