

EZRA MACLEOD TOWNE

Testimony Favorable to HB1380: Health Insurance – Prescriptions for Gender–Affirming Care and Hormone Therapy – Coverage and Dispensing Requirements

March 11, 2026

Delegate Heather Bagnall, Chair, Delegate Bonnie Cullison, Vice-Chair, and esteemed members of the Health Committee:

My name is Ezra Towne, and my pronouns are they/them. I am a 51 year old transmasculine nonbinary adult who helps run a peer facilitated support group for trans and nonbinary adults in Montgomery and Prince George’s County. I am writing to you today in that capacity. Because of this experience, **I urge a favorable report on HB1380: Health Insurance – Prescriptions for Gender–Affirming Care and Hormone Therapy – Coverage and Dispensing Requirements.**

One of the greatest fears the members of my support group face is that the Trump administration will take away hormone replacement therapy for gender affirming care. They rely on these prescription drugs in order to live as their authentic selves. HB1380 would make it possible for them to have a 12 months stock of that medication, in the event that health insurance is no longer mandated to cover it.

HB1380 would also protect others who rely upon hormone replacement therapy, like post menopausal women.

HB1380 does not mandate that providers always prescribe that much medication at a time, they are free to reduce the number of months supply - in the event that medication levels are likely to change. It also does not require pharmacists to fill an entire year of hormones if there is a shortage in supply. Nothing about medical professional ethics is changed about this bill, nor are the profits or operations of pharmaceutical companies.

For these reasons, I fully support HB1380 and ask for a swift favorable report from the Health committee.

Sincerely,
Ezra MacLeod Towne
Wheaton, Maryland
District 18