

Bill: HB 1380 (Health Insurance – Prescriptions for Gender-Affirming Care and Hormone Therapy – Coverage and Dispensing Requirements)

Position: Favorable

Committee: Health

Hearing Date: 13 March 2026

Chair Bagnall and Members of the Committee,

My name is Dianna Nazzal, and I am a resident of Middletown and a constituent of District 4. I am writing to urge a favorable report on House Bill 1380.

I am a transgender woman, a parent of one, and a disabled combat veteran. After serving our great nation for over 17 years, I was forced out of the U.S. Army this past January alongside numerous other transgender Uniformed Service Members. For those of us who were drummed out, the process to go from the Military Health System into the Civilian healthcare system has been rough to say the least. We've witnessed medically necessary care being walked back at the Federal level, and uncertain what the near future will hold for us regarding stability and continuity of care.

For the last few months, I had to work hard to find a new medical provider who can accept new patients. Countless phone calls, voice mails, emails and in-person visits in hopes of maintaining some semblance of medical care while I was working to move my family to Maryland. Additional stress and worries that no one should have to go through just to be able to maintain their physical, emotional, and mental health in-between careers. Even with a 90-Day supply of hormone therapy, the fear and uncertainty of job insecurity, lack of providers, medical care plans changing, being able to maintain a 12-month supply of medication would give significant breathing room for someone to upkeep their health while allowing them to focus on their next steps.

House Bill 1380 can provide significant relief to patients without the need to request time off from work, adjustment for child care, or arraignment for transportation. Even those who're on 90-Day supplies, this means four times a year needing to coordinate everything for a simple refill. This would also help benefit those who are limited on transportation, trying to balance their caregiving and workload, and for those who're disabled.

House Bill 1380 is a strong means for Maryland to uphold where the Federal systems are peeling back, and as a message to all Marylanders of all walks of life, that our health matters.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to give House Bill 1380 a favorable report.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration,

Dianna Evelyn Nazzal

Middletown, Maryland