

The Honorable Chair
Delegate Heather Bagnall
Health Committee
240 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: OPPOSITION of House Bill 0679
Health Occupations - Cross-Sex Hormone Therapy for Minors**

To the Chair Bagnall, Vice Chair Cullison, and esteemed members of the Health Committee,

My name is Calvin Schuster, I am a resident of Baltimore, Maryland who resides within Maryland Congressional District 7 and Maryland Legislative District 40. I am also a medical student at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, studying medicine to be able to meaningfully and equitably serve our community. As a student of medicine, I care deeply about public health and scientific rigor when it comes to medical research and access to care, and because of this I am writing today to name my opposition to House Bill 0679.

Major U.S. medical organizations such as the American Medical Association, American Academy of Pediatrics, American Psychiatric Association, Pediatric Endocrine Society, Endocrine Society, and more have issued statements opposing legislative bans on gender-affirming hormone therapy for minors and cautioning against criminalizing clinicians who provide this care.¹⁻⁷ Given current scientific evidence, these professional organizations consider age-appropriate transition-related care medically necessary for many patients.¹⁻⁷ There is abundant, scientifically rigorous evidence that suggests that this care improves and saves lives.⁸⁻¹⁴

HB0679 would deny this care, which would ignore the guidance of these major medical organizations and the scientific evidence that this guidance is based on, leading to avoidable health consequences and worse care outcomes. For these reasons and many more, **I ask the Health Committee to give HB0679 an unfavorable report.**

The views expressed here are my own and do not necessarily reflect the policies or positions of Johns Hopkins University or Johns Hopkins Health System.

Sincerely,

Calvin Schuster

Maryland Congressional District 7
Maryland Legislative District 40

Citations

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