



**BILL:** SB 626 Certificates of Birth, Licenses, and Identification Cards - Sex Designation (Birth Certificate Modernization Act)

**DATE:** April 1, 2026

**POSITION:** Favorable with Amendments

**COMMITTEE:** Health

Glisten(formerly GLSEN) Maryland, the state chapter of the largest advocate for LGBTQ+ issues in K–12 education, supports the Birth Certificate Modernization Act. For more than 34 years, our organization has worked to ensure that every student can learn in safe, inclusive, and affirming school environments.

Accurate identity documents are critical to the safety, dignity, and full participation in school life. When a student or parent’s name or gender marker does not match their official documents, it can put families at risk of unnecessary scrutiny, outing, harassment, or service denial. This is particularly damaging to transgender students who already experience higher rates of bullying, mental health issues, and discrimination in schools.

At a time when LGBTQ+ youth face increasing hostility nationwide, Maryland has the opportunity to reaffirm its commitment to inclusive, evidence-based policy that protects students and families. Ensuring that official documents accurately reflect who people are is a basic but powerful step toward safer schools and stronger communities.

We urge the committee to remove on page 2 lines 4 - 30, as it allows the government to permanently track extremely sensitive personal information, risking privacy and potential misuse.

For these reasons, Glisten Maryland respectfully urges a **FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS** report on SB 626.

*For more information, please contact Jaden Farris at [jaden@md.glsen.org](mailto:jaden@md.glsen.org).*

#### **ABOUT GLISTEN:**

Glisten (previously GLSEN), the nation’s largest advocate for LGBTQ+ issues in K-12 education, has been dedicated to establishing inclusive schools and learning environments for over 34 years. Amidst increasing threats against LGBTQ+ youth nationwide, Glisten actively addresses harassment and discrimination by empowering educators, advocating for policy changes, and combating book bans.

