

Testimony Opposing House Bill 0679 – Requesting Unfavorable Report

As a Maryland parent, I am writing to oppose HB0679, Health Occupations, “Cross Sex Hormone Therapy for Minors.” My testimony is further informed by my friendship with taxpaying neighbors who are raising a transgender teen and whose lives would be directly harmed by this bill.

Maryland is known for its excellent and innovative health care. I am perplexed that some legislators want to override the expertise and judgment of licensed health care practitioners to provide well-established medical care to a very small number of Maryland minors under the authority of the child’s parents. The [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) reaffirmed the need and appropriateness of gender-affirming care for minors in 2023.

Maryland is also known as the "Free State," referring to our principled support of individual freedoms during the Civil War. **I am outraged that some legislators want to override parents’ freedom to determine the best interests of their child** and pursue health care for that child in consultation with licensed health care practitioners.

I urge our legislators to defeat HB0679 and stop attacking trans people, period. Please focus instead on matters that promote the freedom, well-being and economic security of all Marylanders.

Sincerely,

Patrice Pascual
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