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| Committee: | Health Committee |
| Bill Number: | House Bill 1380 Health Insurance - Prescriptions for Gender-Affirming Care and Hormone Therapy - Coverage and Dispensing Requirements |
| Hearing Date: | March 13, 2026 |
| Position: | Favorable |

Planned Parenthood of Maryland (PPM) supports *House Bill 1380 Health Insurance - Prescriptions for Gender-Affirming Care and Hormone Therapy - Coverage and Dispensing Requirements*. The bill requires Maryland health insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and HMOs to cover up to a 12-month supply of “qualifying prescription” drugs used for -gender affirming- care or hormone therapy in a single dispensing. The bill also amends pharmacy practice rules to allow pharmacists to dispense these qualifying prescriptions in accordance with the proposed law.

Planned Parenthood of Maryland (PPM) provides gender-affirming care statewide through seven health centers and telehealth services. Our gender-affirming care services are highly sought after, and demand continues to rise. As a provider of gender-affirming hormone therapy, PPM sees firsthand how consistent access to medication is essential for safe, stable, and effective care. When patients experience refill delays, even for a few days, treatment plans are disrupted.

According to the 2023 Maryland Trans [Survey](#), insurance complications disrupt continuity of gender-affirming hormone therapy. Participants reported difficulty navigating insurance requirements, prior authorizations, and pharmacy-level barriers. These administrative hurdles increase the likelihood of running out of medication before a refill is secured, a known driver of non-adherence. Additionally, trans people of color were more likely than white respondents to report difficulty accessing hormones.

The preliminary findings [report](#) of the 2026 Maryland LGBTQIA community needs assessment show this trend continues even after passage of the Trans Health Equity Act (THEA) in 2023. The data shows that Maryland’s Trans residents experience persistent gaps between policy intent and lived reality. House bill 1380 is a practical solution to these barriers that continue to be reported by Transgender Marylanders. This bill reduces barriers to continuity of care, improves medication adherence, and supports timely access to gender-affirming treatment.

For these reasons, Planned Parenthood of Maryland asks for a favorable report on HB 1380. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Vice President of Public Affairs, Erin Bradley, at erin.bradley@ppm.care.