



2026 WRITTEN TESTIMONY

CONVERSION THERAPY - PROHIBITIONS AND CAUSES OF ACTION

HB1209/SB950- INFORMATIONAL STATEMENT

The Maryland Association for Justice (MAJ) submits this informational statement regarding HB1209/SB950. In making this statement, MAJ takes no position on the practice of conversion therapy or on the creation of a medical negligence cause of action related to it.

MAJ writes to highlight one important feature of the bill: HB1209/SB950 would permit claimants in conversion therapy cases to recover uncapped non-economic damages for pain and suffering (Page 7, lines 19-22).

MAJ has long maintained that caps on non-economic damages violate Marylanders' constitutional right to trial by jury and should be repealed. For that reason, MAJ supports HB476, which would eliminate the cap in personal injury actions.

There is no principled basis for allowing full, uncapped compensation in one category of injury while limiting recovery for others. A Marylander harmed by a negligent driver, a careless surgeon, or an unsafe product should not be subject to a lower ceiling on justice than a claimant in a conversion therapy case.

While taking no position the substance of HB1209/SB950, MAJ supports its recognition that non-economic damages should not be subject to arbitrary legislative limits. The General Assembly should extend that principle to all personal injury cases by passing HB476.

About Maryland Association for Justice

The Maryland Association for Justice (MAJ) represents over 1,250 trial attorneys throughout the state of Maryland. MAJ advocates for the preservation of the civil justice system, the protection of the rights of consumers and the education and professional development of its members.

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