

To: Members of the Maryland House of Representatives

Date: 3/2/2026

Subject: Testimony to Consider to Maryland House Bill 1011: "Workgroup on supporting transgender and gender diverse Students"

Hi, my name is Cooper Speach, I am 15 years old and I am a 9th grader at Wye River Upper School in Centerville, but I live in Annapolis, I also identify as a gay teen. I am submitting testimony for you to consider as you determine amendments to House Bill 1011 to establish a workgroup to support transgender and gender diverse students.

I feel this bill would benefit transgender and gender diverse students as it would provide a safe space for gender diverse students. A workgroup would provide them a place where they can go to be away from all the discrimination and stereotypes associated with the LGBTQIA+ community. I know that there is a lot of discrimination towards the gender diverse community and this would provide a beacon of protection and hope for those who struggle with this kind of stuff on a daily basis.

In conclusion, I feel this bill would be very beneficial to pass and I ask that you do so for the good of the LGBTQIA+ community. Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony and have a great day.

Yours truly,  
Cooper Speach

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Hi, my name is Cooper Speach, I am 15 years old and I am a 9th grader at Wye River Upper School in Centerville, but I live in Annapolis, I also identify as a gay teen. I am submitting testimony for you to consider as you determine amendments to House Bill 1011 to establish a workgroup to support transgender and gender diverse students.

I feel this bill would benefit transgender and gender diverse students as it would provide a safe space for gender diverse students. A workgroup would provide them a place where they can go to be away from all the discrimination and stereotypes associated with the LGBTQIA+ community. Additionally, provide them individual who are a safe space and can help them navigate the challenges they are trying to understand and overcome. I know that there is a lot of discrimination towards the gender diverse community and this would provide a beacon of protection and hope for those who struggle with this kind of stuff on a daily basis. I feel that it would provide and a place for people to discuss problems that they face on a day to day basis.

In conclusion, I feel this bill would be very beneficial to pass and I ask that you do so for the good of the LGBTQIA+ community. Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony and have a great day.

Yours truly,  
Cooper Speach