

# EZRA MACLEOD TOWNE

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## **Testimony Favorable to HB1011: Workgroup on Supporting Transgender and Gender Diverse Students - Established**

March 2, 2026

Delegate Jheanelle K. Wilkins, Chair, Delegate Jessica Feldmark, Vice-Chair, and esteemed members of the Ways and Means Committee:

My name is Ezra Towne, and my pronouns are they/them. **I am writing to you today to ask for your support on HB1011 - Workgroup on Supporting Transgender and Gender Diverse Students - Established. I ask for a favorable report with amendments.**

I truly value the breadth and thoroughness of the proposed members of this workgroup, and I believe that it is high time that we establish a statewide review of the state of transgender and gender diverse students in Maryland schools, and develop policies and guidelines to support them.

However, there is no guarantee of representation by trans or gender diverse youth, individuals, nor parents of trans or gender diverse children.

I see three areas in which trans representation could be written into the bill.

- Section 1, b, 10 asks for one student member of a county board of education to be on the workgroup. This could be replaced with “one trans or gender non-conforming student.”
- Section 1, b, 11 asks for two members who are parents of children enrolled in public schools in the State. This could be replaced with “parents of trans or gender diverse children enrolled in public schools in the State.”
- A percentage goal for trans and gender diverse representation on the workgroup shall be established, to be determined by the co-chairs of the workgroup.

**For these reasons, I ask for a Favorable Report with Amendments on HB1011 - Workgroup on Supporting Transgender and Gender Diverse Students - Established.**

Sincerely,  
Ezra MacLeod Towne  
Wheaton, Maryland  
District 18