



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Mary Beth Haller, Interim Commissioner of Health, Baltimore City Health Department
CC	Mayor's Office of Government Relations
DATE	May 29, 2025
SUBJECT	25-0015R - Informational Hearing – Well-being of the Transgender Community in Baltimore

Position: Favorable

BILL SYNOPSIS

This resolution, titled “Informational Hearing – Well-being of the Transgender Community in Baltimore,” calls upon several City and state agencies to update the Baltimore City Council on services provided to, and the general well being of, the transgender community in Baltimore.

SUMMARY OF POSITION

The Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) is pleased to have the opportunity to present on our programs and services as they relate to trans Baltimoreans. The agency serves all eligible Baltimore City residents, regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, or other personal characteristics. All of BCHD’s programs serve transgender individuals. The agency strives to provide a welcoming environment in our clinics and in all of our programming.

Transgender individuals are more likely to experience certain negative health outcomes. For example, data show that they are more likely to be living with HIV and other sexually transmitted infection than the general population. In Baltimore City, an estimated 6% of individuals newly infected with HIV in 2023 identified as gender diverse. Data show that transgender people living with HIV are less likely to receive treatment and less likely to be retained in care than cisgender people living with HIV. BCHD welcomes the opportunity to present on our STI and HIV prevention and treatment programming, as well as programming aimed at providing social supports for those living with HIV.

In addition, transgender individuals often face challenges with social determinants of health that directly impact sexual health and well-being. For example, housing, safety, employment, food security, and stigma can all impact many health outcomes, including HIV.

BCHD respectfully requests a **favorable** report and looks forward to attending this informational hearing.