



**Council Bill 24-0223R**

1       **WHEREAS**, the 2022 United States Trans Survey (USTS) of 92,329 transgender and  
2 nonbinary adults found that 98 percent of adults who received gender-affirming care were more  
3 satisfied with their lives.

4       **WHEREAS**, according to Trans Maryland trans and nonbinary people in Maryland experience  
5 challenges accessing health care, and 20.1 percent have no place to receive health care advice.

6       **WHEREAS**, for the purpose of this resolution, gender-affirming health care means any  
7 medically necessary treatment consistent with current clinical standards of care prescribed by a  
8 licensed health care provider in collaboration with their patient for the treatment of a condition  
9 related to an individual’s gender identity.

10       **WHEREAS**, gender-affirming health care is evidence-based, medically necessary, and  
11 lifesaving.

12       **WHEREAS**, studies have shown that gender transition, including access to gender-affirming  
13 health care, improves the overall well-being of transgender and nonbinary people, and that  
14 access to gender-affirming health care for youth is associated with better mental health  
15 outcomes and lower risks of suicide.

16       **WHEREAS**, multiple health care institutions across the country have scaled back or have  
17 considered scaling back gender-affirming health care services in response to legal challenges,  
18 perception of legal risk, harassment, or threats of violence.

19       **WHEREAS**, many institutions providing gender-affirming health care are located in Baltimore  
20 and local advocates already report longer wait times and difficulty accessing medically necessary  
21 gender-affirming health care.

22       **WHEREAS**, the City of Baltimore has consistently declared its commitment to furthering  
23 transgender equity and supporting its growing transgender community through City Ordinance  
24 23-0378 that prohibits the willful use of the incorrect name or pronouns of an individual.

25       **WHEREAS**, health care professionals providing, and individuals seeking, receiving, or  
26 assisting another individual who is seeking or receiving gender-affirming health care in the City  
27 of Baltimore should be protected from attempts to impose criminal punishment, civil liability,  
28 administrative penalties, or professional sanctions based on the laws of other states when  
29 gender-affirming health care is lawful in the State of Maryland and meets standards for good  
30 professional practice.

31       **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, That the  
32 Baltimore City Council declares Baltimore City a sanctuary city for transgender and nonbinary  
33 individuals and calls on all units of City government receiving City funds to safeguard an  
34 individual's right to gender-affirming health care by refraining from using City funds or resources  
35 to impose criminal punishment, civil liability, administrative penalties, or professional sanctions  
36 on recipients, the families of recipients, or providers of gender-affirming health care.

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1       **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to Governor Wes  
2 Moore, the Director of the Maryland Commission on LGBTQIA+ Affairs, the Baltimore City  
3 Delegation to the General Assembly, the LGBTQIA+ Caucus of the Maryland General  
4 Assembly, the Mayor, the Director of the Mayor’s Office of LGBTQ Affairs, the Office of Equity  
5 and Civil Rights, and the Mayor’s legislative liaison to the City Council.