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Planned Parenthood of Maryland

**Committee: House Economic Matters Committee**

**Bill Number: HB 1147**

**Title: Places of Accommodation and Public Buildings – Single Occupancy Public Restrooms – Availability (Accessible to All Act)**

**Hearing Date: March 3, 2020**

**Position: Support**

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Planned Parenthood of Maryland (PPM) supports *House Bill 1147 – Places of Public Accommodation and Public Buildings – Single – Occupancy Public Restrooms – Availability (The Accessible to All Act)*. This bill would require single-occupancy public restrooms in a public building to be marked with gender-inclusive signage that does not use pictorial representation and contains only descriptive language.

Restrooms that are accessible to all provide a welcoming space for everyone, including nursing mothers, individuals with disabilities, and parents of young children. They also protect gender neutral and transgender citizens from harassment. Non-gendered restrooms already exist in many places, and are required in Baltimore City, Washington, DC, and Philadelphia, among others. Complying with the bill is easy, and offers a practical way to make all feel welcome and safe.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony, and we urge a favorable vote. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at [relliott@policypartners.net](mailto:relliott@policypartners.net) or (443) 926-3443.