

Testimony Concerning HB 1010
“Health Care Facilities – Discrimination (LGBTQ Senior Bill of Rights)”
Submitted to The House Health and Government Operations Committee
March 5, 2020

Position: Support

Dear Health and Government Operations Committee,

My name is Monte Ephraim. I am a licensed clinical Social Worker as well as a 63 year old LGBTQ Elder. I work with the 50 + LGBTQ community for which I belong. Our rights have been nonexistent at best. In our younger days and as we grow older we are challenged with both visibility and vulnerability. The patients, community and myself for whom I advocate, this Bill of Rights, **“Health Care Facilities – Discrimination (LGBTQ Senior Bill of Rights)”** is a step in an environment where rights are not guaranteed and stigma and misinformation influence care.

In supporting this Bill, you are advocating not guaranteeing our care with dignity and respect. Please support this important step in recognition and inclusion in our care.

I urge you to support House Bill 1010 to protect LGBTQ seniors from discrimination.

Thank you for your consideration.

Monte Ephraim LCSW-C
Manager of the LGBT Health Resource Center and ElderPride Program.