



## TESTIMONY FOR HB0369 Marriage Records – Name Change

**Bill Sponsor:** Delegate Belcastro

**Committee:** Judiciary

**Organization Submitting:** Maryland Legislative Coalition

**Person Submitting:** Cecilia Plante, co-chair

**Position:** FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB0369 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of individuals and grassroots groups with members in every district in the state with well over 30,000 members.

This bill supports our trans community by allowing for a person to change their name on a marriage certificate in such a way that it doesn't inadvertently out them. It also allows for other changes to the marriage certificate to reflect more gender-neutral language. Finally, it prevents the new marriage certificate from being marked as amended.

Our members are very concerned about the difficulties that trans and other LGBTQIA persons have in trying to navigate in a world that is designed to support only heterosexual people, and we think it is important to make obvious paperwork, like marriage certificates and drivers licenses, work for them as well.

We support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.