

TESTIMONY OF **YOUR NAME** IN SUPPORT OF
H.3126 An Act Providing for Gender Neutral Designation on State Documents and Identifications

Honorable Chairpersons Pacheco and Cabral, Vice Chairpersons Rausch and Barber, and members of the Joint Committee:

I am writing in support of House Bill 3216 titled An Act Providing for Gender Neutral Designation on State Documents and Identifications. This bill would provide critical representation for thousands of transgender, nonbinary, and intersex people across the state.

[Insert 1-2 paragraphs about why this bill matters to your organization or you personally. This should ideally include a brief introduction of your qualifications, general interests, and background. For example, if you are a student, an academic, a clergy member, a business owner, a parent, etc. it would be helpful if you can mention that. Spend some time in this section explaining why, from your perspective, this legislation would be good for the residents in Massachusetts.]

Providing an “X” gender marker is critically important because [Pick 1-2]:

- Currently, with binary limitations on state ID's and birth certificates, there is no recognition for non-binary or intersex people on Massachusetts ID's. House Bill 3126 will work to remedy this, by providing a non-binary gender marker, “X,” for use on state ID's or databases.
- The use of “X” as a gender marker has already been utilized and approved by 12 other US states, and several countries around the world.
- An X gender marker is consistent with the practice of the International Civil Aviation Association (ICAO), an agency of the United Nations, which uses an internationally-recognized passport format that allows for M, F, or X gender markers¹.
- Adding a non-binary gender marker option for Massachusetts state ID's does not impact standing with Real ID: an “X” gender marker complies with federal rules and regulations for domestic and international travel².

I respectfully request that you give House Bill 3126 a favorable report. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions on the matter or need additional information.

¹ ICAO Document 9303, Machine Readable Travel Documents, at IV-14 (7th ed. 2015), available at <http://www.icao.int/Security/mrtd/Pages/Document9303.aspx>.

² 73 FR 5300, Minimum Standards for Licenses and Identification Cards Acceptable by Federal Agencies for Official Purposes, January 29, 2008.