



**Maryland Commission  
on LGBTQIA+ Affairs**

Health & Wellness Committee Meeting Minutes  
June 23, 2025, 7:00pm - 8:00pm  
Zoom Meeting

Members Present:

Mickey Dhir, Committee Chair  
Anthony Fox, Vice Chair  
Paula Neira  
Stephen Martin

Members Absent:

Ex Officio: Lee Blinder

Staff Present:

Jeremy Browning - Director, Maryland Commission on LGBTQIA+ Affairs  
Taylor Harer - Special Assistant, Maryland Commission on LGBTQIA+ Affairs

- I. Meeting called to order by Committee Chair at 7:06pm.
- II. Committee Chair Dhir acknowledged housekeeping and meeting guidelines.
- III. Roll call was conducted by Committee Chair Dhir.
- IV. Approval of Agenda: Commissioner Fox requested an item to be added to the agenda. Discussing issues surrounding HIV prevention funding in DC was added to the agenda. There were no further additions or comments and the agenda was approved via unanimous consent.
- V. Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the 4.28.2025 meeting were approved by unanimous consent.
- VI. Discussion: DC HIV Prevention Funding Update - The Committee discussed the impact of recent CDC funding cuts on DC HIV prevention efforts. Commissioner Fox noted that in Maryland, previously free services are now being charged to patients' insurance, raising concerns about access. Director Browning proposed creating a brief before the July 19th retreat to outline the Committee's stance and emphasize data-driven collaboration with partner organizations. Members stressed encouraging insured

individuals to use these services and discussed attending future budget hearings to advocate for stronger support for HIV prevention, testing, and Medicaid integration.

- VII. Discussion: 2025 Health & Wellness Committee Priorities - The Committee discussed its 2025 Health & Wellness priorities, focusing on HIV funding cuts and support for gender-affirming care. The Committee explored advocacy strategies, including budget advocacy. Commissioner Fox will share national policy briefs with Director Browning, and Commission staff will prepare a summary for the full Commission.
- VIII. Adjournment: The Committee Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:01pm.

Meeting minutes submitted respectfully by: Taylor Harer, Special Assistant