February 18, 2025

Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine  
178 Albion Street, Wakefield, MA 01880

Subject: 243 CMR 1.00 and 2.00 Shield

Dear Members of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine,

As the CEO of Transhealth, I am writing in strong support of the emergency amendment to 243 CMR 1.00 and 243 CMR 2.00 which codifies Massachusetts Shield Law protections for physicians delivering reproductive or gender-affirming health care. Specifically, I would like to speak to the amendment as it applies to gender-affirming care.

Supported by every major medical organization worldwide, including the American Medical Association (AMA) and Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS), gender-affirming care is medically necessary, evidence-based healthcare for transgender and gender-diverse people. It is essential for this care to be protected for the health it promotes and the lives it saves. The State plays a critical role in legally protecting medical professionals throughout the Commonwealth who are clinically and ethnically bound to deliver this care to the thousands of patients who need and deserve it.

This amendment makes it clear that Massachusetts will continue to be a leader in upholding high standards of medical practice. Furthermore, it sends the message that the Commonwealth prioritizes patient rights and well-being, and will not sit back and allow its physicians to be bullied out of providing medically necessary health care.

Thank you for your leadership in filing this emergency amendment, helping to ensure that Massachusetts continues to safeguard fundamental rights and keeps being a place where physicians can safely practice evidence-based medicine without undue interference and fear of punitive retaliation.

Sincerely,



Jo Erwin, RN, BSN  
Chief Executive Officer