



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

INTERSEX AWARENESS DAY OCTOBER 26, 2025

- WHEREAS,** *Intersex Awareness Day, observed annually on October 26, is dedicated to raising awareness about the unique experiences, challenges, and contributions of intersex individuals, and advocating for the recognition and rights of intersex people worldwide; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Intersex people are born with physical sex characteristics that do not fit typical definitions of male or female bodies, including variations in their chromosomes, genital anatomy, internal reproductive organs, and hormone function; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Intersex people often face social stigma, medical discrimination, and the erasure of their existence and lived experiences, all of which have led to harmful practices and violations of their rights; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Intersex Awareness Day commemorates the first public demonstration by intersex people and allies in 1996, which called attention to the harmful practice of non-consensual surgeries being performed unnecessarily in infancy and early childhood and proclaimed the urgent need for greater respect, inclusion, and protection for intersex individuals; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland has a proud history of standing for equality and justice, and the State of Maryland is committed to creating a more inclusive and respectful society for all by affirming intersex people's rights to bodily autonomy, dignity, and self-determination; and*
- WHEREAS,** *It is important to support intersex individuals in their journey for recognition, acceptance, and equality, and to work towards eliminating harmful practices such as forced surgeries and other medical interventions, and discrimination based on intersex status; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Raising awareness about intersex existence and intersex rights also supports allied movements' advocacy for a deeper understanding of gender diversity and the importance of celebrating the bodies, identities, and lived experiences of all individuals.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim **OCTOBER 26, 2025** as **INTERSEX AWARENESS DAY** in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.

Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 26th day of October
Two Thousand and twenty-five



[Signature]
Governor

[Signature]
Lt. Governor

[Signature]
Secretary of State

[Signature]
Secretary of State