



330 N. Howard Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
(410) 576-1400
www.plannedparenthood.org/maryland

Planned Parenthood of Maryland

Committee: House Ways and Means Committee

Bill Number: House Bill 618 – Maryland Parental Rights Act

Hearing Date: February 22, 2022

Position: Oppose

Planned Parenthood of Maryland opposes *House Bill 618 – Maryland Parental Rights Act*. The bill seeks to impose criminal penalties, including imprisonment of up to one year, on the practitioner or owner of a facility that violates Maryland law regarding minor consent. There are no other provisions of consent law where practitioners are at risk for criminal penalty if they violate the law. This bill is designed to discourage practitioners from providing care to minor who have the legal right to consent to services. This bill puts minors at risk if they cannot find a provider who is willing to provide needed service such as reproductive health and behavioral health care.

We ask for an unfavorable report on House Bill 618.