



Opposition Statement SB874

Hospitals and Ambulatory Surgical Facilities -Surgical Technologists
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Maryland Right to Life

We oppose SB874.

On behalf of our over 200,000 followers across the state, Maryland Right to Life opposes SB874 being used for the purpose of supplying staff for the abortion industry workforce, and we oppose any funds appropriated from this bill being used to fund staff for the abortion industry. Maryland Right to Life requests an amendment excluding abortion purposes from this bill.

Abortion facilities are ambulatory surgical facilities, and a surgical technologist could be used to assist a “qualified provider” as described in the Abortion Care Access Act of 2022 who provides abortion services. Page 3 of this bill lists exclusions from this bill, and we request that abortion purposes be added to that list with an amendment.

Abortion is not healthcare. Pregnancy is not a disease. Maryland Right to Life will continue to object to state-sponsored abortion. The fact that 85% of OB/Gyn’s in a representative national survey do not perform abortions reveals that abortion is not an essential part of women’s healthcare. Women have better options for comprehensive healthcare. Abortion is the opposite of healthcare, especially for the black community where half of all pregnancies to black women in Baltimore City end by abortion.

Funding restrictions are constitutional. The Supreme Court of the United States, in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health* (2022), overturned *Roe v. Wade* (1973) and held that there is no right to abortion found in the Constitution of the United States. As early as 1980 the Supreme Court affirmed in *Harris v. McRae*, that *Roe* had created a limitation on government, not a government funding entitlement. The Court held that government may distinguish between abortion and other procedures in funding decisions and that there is “no limitation on the authority of the State to make a value judgment favoring childbirth over abortion, and to implement that judgment by the allocation of public funds.” The 2023 Marist poll once again showed that 60% of Americans, both pro-life and pro-abortion, oppose tax-payer funded abortion.

Without an amendment excluding abortion purposes from this bill, Maryland Right to Life requests an unfavorable report on SB874.