## **House Bill 1412 Health and Government Operations Committee**

Honorable Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Health and Government Operations Committee;

Please give House Bill 1412, regarding an abortion care access grant and fund, a Favorable report.

Reproductive healthcare is necessary in order for pregnant people to have the right to self-determination. Without the right to oneself, one can't have any rights at all. I appreciate that the Maryland legislature decided that we shouldn't lose our rights when we become pregnant.

Unfortunately, there are still barriers to abortion access in Maryland. Clinics, and those who work, volunteer, or seek care at them, are under constant threat. Staff, patients, patient companions, and clinic volunteers are regularly harassed, assaulted, and threatened. Reproductive healthcare clinics could use whatever help they can get in order to be safe and secure. Insurance companies certainly have enough extra money to help make this happen.

I urge you to vote favorably for House Bill 1412. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Debi Jasen Pasadena, MD