

House Bill 858 - UNFAVORABLE
Health and Government Operations Committee

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

Please give House Bill 858 an Unfavorable report.

House Bill 858 would require someone who wants an abortion to wait even longer to get one. This legislation would create a major hardship for anyone who works, takes care of children, relies on public transportation, relies on others for rides, or is at risk of harm from their partner.

Despite what forced-birthers claim, ultrasound images almost never change someone's mind about having an abortion. And someone who's pregnant can always ask to view the ultrasound themselves. Most people who have abortions have already had children. This bill is built on the assumption that pregnant people are stupid and helpless and need to be saved from themselves. Despite what forced-birthers claim, almost no one regrets having an abortion. They have quite the habit of lying.

The legislators who support bills like this are the same as those who vote against making contraception more accessible. If they actually cared about a zygote/ blastocyst/ embryo/ fetus, then they'd be proactive in preventing unintended pregnancies with something other than a religion-based scolding (almost always sexist in application.) This has always been about controlling women's bodies.

I urge an unfavorable report on HB858. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Debi Jasen
Pasadena, MD