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WOMEN LEGISLATORS OF MARYLAND
THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

February 11, 2026

To:

Delegate Heather Bagnall, Chair

Delegate Bonnie Cullison, Vice Chair

Health and Government Operations Committee

The Maryland Women's Caucus proudly supports HB 0372, Hospitals – Emergency Pregnancy-Related Medical Conditions – Procedures.

HB 0372 requires hospitals to conduct appropriate screening of any patient presenting to an emergency department to determine whether the patient has an emergency pregnancy-related medical condition. The bill establishes clear requirements and prohibitions regarding the treatment and transfer of such patients and requires hospitals to allow the termination of a pregnancy when medically necessary under specified circumstances.

This legislation ensures that pregnant patients experiencing emergency conditions receive timely, evidence-based, and medically appropriate care. Delays in treatment during pregnancy-related emergencies can result in severe complications, long-term health consequences, or loss of life. Clear statutory guidance protects both patients and providers by reinforcing the standard of emergency medical care.

The Maryland Women's Caucus is committed to protecting the health, safety, and autonomy of women across the State. Pregnant individuals must have access to immediate emergency interventions without uncertainty, administrative barriers, or fear of denial of care.

By establishing clear protocols for screening, treatment, and transfer, HB 0372 strengthens patient protections and promotes consistent emergency medical practices across Maryland hospitals. Ensuring that hospitals provide necessary care in emergency pregnancy-related situations is essential to safeguarding maternal health and preserving life.

For these reasons, the Maryland Women's Caucus respectfully urges a favorable report on HB 0372.