
Planned Parenthood of Maryland

Committee: Senate Finance Committee

Bill Number: Senate Bill 891

Title: Public Health – Maternal and Child Mortality
Review and Perinatal Hospice Program

Hearing Date: March 10, 2021

Position: Oppose

Planned Parenthood of Maryland (PPM) opposes *Senate Bill 891 – Public Health – Maternal and Child Mortality Review and Perinatal Hospital Program*. PPM supports ensuring pregnant individuals have comprehensive and accurate information about all pregnancy options. For individuals carrying a fetus with a lethal abnormality, it is important and appropriate for health care providers to provide information about perinatal hospice. We also believe individuals should receive information about other clinical options, including abortion. We oppose this legislation because it is not inclusive of all clinical options, and it mandates health care providers relay specific information to patients about perinatal hospice programs. We do not believe it is appropriate to mandate speech for health care providers in statute. Health care providers should base their recommendations to patients on clinical evidence rather than statutory mandates. We ask for an unfavorable report.