



**Informational Statement HB301  
Anatomical Gifts Act - Revision**  
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On behalf of our members across the state, we wish to express our concerns with House Bill 301-**Estates and Trusts - Maryland Revised Uniform Anatomical Gift Act – Revisions**. While we support ethical biomedical research, we reject any program or fund that commits taxpayer funds for the procurement of and research on human embryonic or fetal tissue obtained through the brutality of abortion. No disease has been cured as a result of unnecessary use of human fetal tissue but this research artificially increases the demand for aborted babies and especially late-term aborted babies. See more about this research [HERE](#).

**Humane Disposal of Human Remains**

This legislation would remove safeguards put in place for the rights and dignity of decedents and instead default to a donation preference unless a *financially interested organ procurement organization* identifies whether an anatomical gift or refusal has been made. In the case of abortion, we oppose any and all uses of aborted embryonic and fetal remains, whether for public or commercial purposes, and support only the humane disposal of embryonic and fetal remains to by cremation or burial. In all cases, whether through miscarriage or abortion, we believe the mother must first make an affirmative anatomical gift of her unborn child’s remains only after she has given fully informed consent as to the options for humane disposition or the intended public or commercial use of her unborn child’s remains.

**No public funding for abortions**

Fetal and embryonic tissue harvesting and research creates and artificial demand for aborted babies. State funding for abortion on demand with taxpayer funds is in direct conflict with the will of the people. A 2020 Marist poll showed that 60% of Americans, both “pro-life” and “pro-choice” oppose the use of tax dollars to pay for a woman’s abortion. Never has more than 40% of the American public supported taxpayer funding of abortion regardless of the context or way in which the question is asked.

**Funding restrictions are constitutional**

The Supreme Court has held that the alleged constitutional “right” to an abortion “*implies no limitation on the authority of a State to make a value judgment favoring childbirth over abortion, and to implement that judgment by the allocation of public funds.*” When a challenge to the constitutionality of the Hyde Amendment reached the Supreme Court in 1980 in the case of *Harris v. McRae*, the Court ruled that the government may distinguish between abortion and other procedures in funding decisions -- noting that “*no other procedure involves the purposeful termination of a potential life*” -- and affirmed that *Roe v. Wade* had created a limitation on government, not a government funding entitlement.

We respectfully ask for your specific amendment to remove incentives for the harvesting, procurement or research on human embryonic and fetal tissue obtained through abortion. Thank you.