

HB0846 Public Health - Abortions - Prenatal Diagnosis of Down Syndrome (Down Syndrome Dignity Act)

Stance: Oppose

Testimony: My name is Adiena C. Britt and I reside in the 45<sup>th</sup> Legislative District of Baltimore City. I am writing to offer my Opposition for HB0846. I want to start by saying that I have much love and respect for people who are diagnosed with Downs' Syndrome. They are some of the sweetest humans on this planet. With that being said, I still believe that NO Legislator and especially NO Man should have the right to dictate, legislate, or criminalize a woman's decision on terminating a pregnancy. Women do not make these types of decision lightly, and most live with that decision in solitude and in silence. Why does Del. Cox not have an issue with the other diagnoses that can be obtained through pre-natal testing? Why does Del. Cox think that he alone has the right to determine which diagnosis it's okay to terminate a pregnancy for and which ones should be criminalized? Who made Del. Cox the Supreme Decider over women's health and well-being issues to make such determinations? I don't know how many times I will have to write this, but MEN need to STAY out of the Uterus and Stop trying to dictate what Women do with their bodies. I know it is difficult for some men to face that they cannot control every person in their lives to do everything that they want them to do, but we are born of free will, and should not be subjugated to any other person. Men do no understand the women's body, what we go through in such a body, and the sacrifice and dedication required to take on caring for another human being. Men can walk away from that responsibility at any time, and sometimes do. Stop trying to force your will on Women. You have NO RIGHT to dictate when a woman should be forced to carry a child that she does not wish to bring into this world. None. Period. Men merely deposit sperm at the end of a sexual encounter, and can create as many babies per year as they wish with as many women as they want. Women can only become pregnant once in a year, in a healthy manner. Women bear the burden of having her body undergo so many things that a Man can Never fathom. This is why Men have NO RIGHT to dictate what we do with our bodies. Never. Ever. So this should not pass beyond first reader. Stop writing legislation in attempts to control women. Also, this should not be a "Public Health" issue, it's Women's Health we're talking about, and you don't give a rat's ass about that.

Thank you.

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