

**SB 0890 Wednesday February 23, 2022**

**Maria Hayden Oppose**

I'm a vascular access board certified registered nurse. I oppose SB 890 because allowing nonphysicians to perform abortions demeans and imperils women.

Abortions are already risky. Severe injury and death can occur from hemorrhaging and infection. 1 in 50 surgical abortions require additional surgery to manage complications. Many Maryland abortions are beyond the first trimester which increases risk.

Medical boards recommend that in addition to the normal 12 years of training, doctors should get an additional 2-year subspecialty to do abortions past the first trimester. But instead of increasing safety, this bill trivializes abortion by proposing that any licensed person with "altered" training can perform a high-risk procedure. They'd be working at substandard clinics far from hospitals with no admitting privileges.

As a nurse I know that changing our scope of practice is a serious matter. It carries with it enormous responsibility and liability and is not done without grave reason. Abortion itself is never an emergency because there's no disease to treat. Women are not harmed by waiting or traveling to an accredited doctor and facility. Reducing standards for practitioners is an unnecessary and unacceptable risk.

So why this bill? Because the number of abortionists is dwindling, and it would ensure revenue for the abortion industry. Mainstream doctors don't want to do them. Only the dregs of the medical profession become abortionists. It's a dirty, gruesome, bloody business. And it doesn't heal anyone. This bill prevents release of the names of providers: not an upstanding industry if it has to hide its practitioners.

Allowing nonphysicians to do abortions defies logic for those who say they care about women. It clearly tells women of Maryland that their health can be sacrificed for profit.

Thank you.

Maria Hayden BSN RN VA-BC

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References:

[FINAL-Policy-Statement-Non-Physician-Abortion-Providers.pdf \(aaplog.org\)](#)

[Siege - Prolife Field Manual](#) 23 September 2015 Mark Crutcher

[California study justifying non-physician abortion law debunked \(liveaction.org\)](#)