



Ella Ennis, Legislative Chairman  
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Senator Dolores Kelley, Chairman  
and Members of the Finance Committee  
Senate of Maryland  
Annapolis, Maryland

RE: **SB 0891** Public Health Medical Procedures – Parental Involvement – **SUPPORT**

Dear Chairman Kelley and Committee Members,

The 1,480 members of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women support SB 0891 to require notice to a parent or guardian of a minor girl when an abortion, which is an invasive medical procedure, is to be performed on the minor. Parents are responsible for the care and protection of their children and need to be involved in decisions affecting their children's health and well-being. Ensuring that the clinic and physician performing this procedure is competent is important. Minors do not have the knowledge or experience to judge the competency of the clinic and physician providing the abortion. SB 0891 provides for a court waiver procedure for a situation where there is a safety issue if the parent or guardian were notified.

If something goes wrong with a minor's abortion, the parents will be responsible for follow-up care needed to heal that child. That includes the physical and emotional care and the financial cost of follow up care. Parents need to be involved upfront in the process. A minor does not have the life experience or knowledge about what can go wrong to make these decisions unaided. They are easily pressured into decisions that may not be in their best interest.

Please give SB 0891 a **FAVORABLE** Report.

Sincerely,  
Ella Ennis  
Legislative Chairman  
Maryland Federation of Republican Women