



Peter Franchot  
*Comptroller*

## TESTIMONY OF COMPTROLLER PETER FRANCHOT

### Support – Senate Bill 890 – Abortion Care Access Act

*Finance Committee*

*February 23, 2022*

Chair Kelley, Vice Chair Feldman, and members of the Committee, it is my pleasure to provide testimony in **support** of **Senate Bill 890 – Abortion Care Access Act**. I would like to thank the Chair for sponsoring this important legislation, and the Committee for providing the opportunity for my testimony to be heard.

Abortion care is critically important healthcare, but access to these services have come under increased threat in recent years. Both patients and providers are subject to a hostile environment and further politically driven restrictions. With a pending Supreme Court case, and legislation likely to fail in the U.S. Senate, we cannot wait for federal leadership on this issue. We must act now to ensure Marylanders have access to safe and affordable care.

Senate Bill 890 would help ensure better access to services by removing antiquated restrictions on nurse practitioners, nurse midwives and physician assistants providing abortion care to patients. Additionally, the bill would establish the Abortion Care Clinical Training Program to help increase the number and diversity of health professionals qualified to perform these services.

For the reasons stated above, and the protection of Marylander's access to care, I respectfully request a favorable report for Senate Bill 890. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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