

I wish to express my dismay at and opposition to proposed legislation HB1171. This bill is grossly deficient in safeguarding the rights of minors. By never mentioning age, the wording of the bill negates statutory rape laws and age of consent laws, bars criminalization of sex between adults and minors, and, in the name of “reproductive liberty,” makes it impossible to bring charges against an adult for having intercourse with a minor of any age. Moreover, it would allow minors access to abortion, sterilization, and transgender surgery—without parental consent. Unthinkable! In addition to these nightmares, Maryland would become a magnet drawing child molesters from other states by affording them the convenience of aborting children conceived by their rape of minors, without accountability.

This bill would incentivize reprehensible actions by adults looking to exploit the weak. It would impose an obscene financial burden on Maryland taxpayers and immeasurable human suffering on her most vulnerable citizens. I urge you to reject HB1171.

Thank you.

Michael J. Geier