

Dear Representatives.

I'm opposed to this bill. The language in this bill is far too vague, "reproductive rights" and "reproductive liberty", while alluding to the right to abortions could be used to legalize other behavior if the language isn't clear. I will quote the bill on other language I am opposed to for lack of clarity: "THE STATE MAY NOT, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, DENY, BURDEN, OR ABRIDGE THE RIGHT UNLESS JUSTIFIED BY A COMPELLING STATE INTEREST ACHIEVED BY THE LEAST RESTRICTIVE MEANS." In this portion of the bill I'm not quite sure why the words "compelling state interest" needs to be included. What would be an example of a compelling state interest intervening in a woman's pregnancy? This makes no sense to me. Abortion is already permitted in Maryland, what good does this bill do is my main question. While there is an effort to make abortions easier for women in this bill, it's a shame the rights of the unborn child seem to be ignored.