

HB1171 Oppose

Maria Hayden

Good afternoon. I am an expert witness for HB1171. I am an expert not because I've been a nurse for 33 years, but because I am a human being. The synopsis of HB1171 states that people have the right to bodily integrity. Every human being knows that the bodily integrity of a preborn person is not preserved when he is being starved, violently suctioned, scraped, or torn limb from limb in his mother's womb. I just have to exist as a human being to understand the hideousness of abortion.

Oh – the bill was talking about a *woman's* bodily integrity. Well that's easy too - a pregnant woman's body has perfect integrity. It is only when her baby is ripped from her that she becomes violated and injured.

A preborn baby is a person and everyone knows it.

Privacy is a made-up right, and everyone knows it.

And you know that if this amendment comes to referendum the public will not be aware of its extreme nature - that our legislature will no longer have the ability to pass laws that could protect women from incompetent practitioners, from unsafe facilities, from the abuse of minors, from coercion of sex trafficking, or from any new dangerous method of abortion. Does Maryland want all of these crimes to be private?

And what about my rights? My freedom to not fund abortions.
I demand my rights not be trampled.

Abortion law in Maryland is already as liberal as it gets. This amendment would expand beyond anything you could describe as women's rights. This amendment will deform Maryland to an even more dangerous dark place, an even deeper pit of death.

I'm Maria Hayden and that is my expert testimony.