

As a citizen of the state of Maryland, I strongly object to bill HB 1171 which, as written, would have horrendous implications under the guise of protecting “reproductive liberty”. It potentially erases statutory rape laws and age of consent laws meant to protect those who are vulnerable, especially children. By broadly supporting the “reproductive liberty” of all and prohibiting State intervention, this bill potentially could imperil the liberty (life and health) of others making it impossible, for example, to sue an adult for having intercourse with a minor or pre-pubescent minor and could strip away parental consent for minor children who wish to seek an abortion, sterilization or trans-gender surgery.

Further, the bill forces Maryland citizens, through the use of their tax dollars, to support actions which they find to be morally reprehensible, thus abridging their own rights regarding freedom of conscience.

Is this truly what we want Maryland to stand for?