

Pamela Palumbo
91 Scotts Cove Rd
Edgewater, MD 21037
Unfavorable SB890

I respectfully request that you oppose SB890 the Abortion Care Access Act as well as oppose introduction or passage of any bill expanding the 'scope of practice' of any health care provider without excluding abortion and abortion funding.

It has long been the strategy of the Abortion supporters and providers to continue to work towards broadening the definition of the 'scope' of practice to enable them to further increase the number of lower and lower level health care providers licensed to provide abortion services. Expanding 'who' can perform surgical abortions and provide medical abortions is purely to increase the number of abortions done on teen and adult women and putting even more women at risk of substandard medical care, injury and death.

One of the few protections in the Maryland Code is the legal requirement that only a licensed physician may perform abortions. However, we have to look no further than minutes away, just down the road to Washington DC to witness repeated and horrific injuries to women where Nurse Practitioners are permitted to perform and provide surgical and medical abortions.

I site for you the 4 most recent cases of appalling abortion injuries to 4 women in just a 12-18 month period ending June 2019.¹ These abortions began at Capital Women's Services in Washington DC, but ended in Maryland. They were performed by Nurse Practitioner Khalilah Q Jefferson, an African American female Nurse Practitioner who received her degree from Coppin State University in Maryland. Patient Markeisha Hemsley suffered an incomplete abortion with uterine perforation, lacerations of her cervix and other internal injuries. Nurse Practitioner Khalilah Jefferson not only transferred her, not to a hospital, but against her will to a medical office in Maryland, as well as Nurse Practitioner Jefferson herself impersonated Helmsley's mother while calling 911. Capital Women's Services may be familiar to you as its connected to abortionist Steven Brigham who operated the late term abortion facility in Elkton MD where police found the babies bodies from 30 late term abortion

Medstar Washington Hospital center employee Pam Lotke herself reported the injuries as she was concerned about patient care standards for the abortions. Also reported was an abortion by Nurse Practitioner Cathy Chapman. Lotke wrote "While I understand that complications happen with any procedures (sic), the severity and frequency of these complications is disturbing. This has prompted me to reach out to the department of health. By report, the patients have only mentioned nurse practitioners in their care, no physician."

Yet the abortion industry disregards standards of care where abortion and profits meet and choose cheaper cost of lower level medical care over women's safety in performing surgical abortions and dispensing abortion pills. They are asking YOU, our legislators to do the same.

9 out of 10 ob/gyn's refuse to commit abortions – shouldn't that give you pause to ask WHY? If the medical field of OB/GYN who are qualified to perform abortions are refusing, how do the public and elected officials become qualified to circumvent this to find 'someone- really just anyone' to perform and provide them and then force every resident of Maryland to fund it?

The increasing unregulated proliferation of chemical abortion pills are taking abortion further outside the spectrum of "health care" as most women are now prescribed these pills without the benefit of a physician's examination. Women are merely handed two pills over the counter by whom ever is there and then charged the SAME as for a surgical abortion.² Those of you who understand business and ROI (Return on Investment) can clearly see the VAST increase in profitability and reason for constant pushing to increase medical abortions rates. Then on top of it, those same abortionists submit to Maryland Medicaid reimbursement for \$390 regardless if it is a medical or surgical abortion.

I can speak first hand to the proliferation of chemical abortion pills, the abortion industry itself has exposed women to "back alley" style abortions, where they bleed alone without medical supervision or assistance. The calls, emails and texts coming into our Pregnancy Clinic offices continue to increase as women walk into an abortion clinic for a pregnancy test and walk out having been handed an abortion pill to swallow and one more to take at home. It is no surprise to us the skyrocketing numbers of women calling us having changed their minds and realizing they were sold a 'bill of goods' in the abortion they never even had time to consider. I challenge you to study the increase in Emergency Room visits by women hemorrhaging alone at home.

I strongly urge you to protect pregnant women in Maryland by preserving the physician only requirement for all abortions (both surgical and chemical) and by making it clear that it is not within the scope or independence of practice of lower health care professionals to provide or perform abortion. Please vote against HB937/SB890 Abortion Care Access Act and HB952/ Access to Abortion Care and Health Insurance Act.

1. <https://www.lifenews.com/2022/02/01/abortion-clinic-faces-subpoenas-after-hospital-reported-horrific-injuries-to-women-from-botched-abortions/>
2. <https://www.plannedparenthood.org/health-center/maryland/baltimore/21201/baltimore-city-health-center-3292-90620/abortion>