Chair Delores G. Kelley Senate Finance Committee Miller Senate Office Building 11 Bladen St. Annapolis, MD 21401

## SIGN ON SUPPORTER LETTER SB 890 – Abortion Care Access Act

Honorable Chair Kelley:

We, the undersigned, ask for a favorable report on Senate Bill 890, the Abortion Care Access Act.

Our organizations range widely in work and mission, but we are united in our belief of bodily autonomy and abortion as a fundamental human right. We understand that the legality of abortion isn't enough to guarantee access—especially for low-income people, Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC), and people living in rural areas.

Abortion access for Marylanders is already limited by provider shortages and poor insurance coverage. By removing the barriers which currently prevent advanced practice clinicians from providing procedural care, we will support access for Marylanders living in more rural areas of the state that are potentially hours away from their nearest abortion provider. The legislation will also establish and fund a clinical abortion training program: an effort which will be especially helpful for clinicians who trained in states that prohibit comprehensive reproductive health service provision and education.

Currently, Maryland Medicaid's coverage of abortion is subject to debate each year and only allows for care to be covered in certain circumstances. Low-income Marylanders – those who are least likely to afford abortion care on their own – should be able to rely on permanent coverage. For individuals with private insurance, cost-sharing and deductibles often require people to pay entirely out-of-pocket for their care, which can put abortion out of reach.

We stand in support of this legislation as a recognition that our movements are intersectional, and individuals in the communities that we serve have had—will continue to have —abortions. Indeed, everyone loves someone that has had an abortion.

We urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 890. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

The Advanced Practice Clinician (APC) Cluster of the Reproductive Health Access Network, Nurses for Sexual and Reproductive Health, and the National Abortion Federation

Greenbelt Alliance for Reproductive Freedom (GARF)

Medical Students for Choice – University of Maryland School of Medicine Chapter

Reproductive Health Access Project, Mid-Atlantic Cluster



























