

I, Sara Buck, am against HB1171 because firstly and foremost, all lives matter because all human life is sacred. Life begins at conception and must be protected from conception to natural death. No one has the right to harm another human being, whether that be in the womb or outside. Also, many post abortive women regret their decision and struggle psychologically with their abortions if they do not seek professional help after, leading to more depression/anxiety. Secondly, Maryland already struggles with a significant amount of pedophilia/child abuse and this bill will only legalize and even protect these heinous crimes against our children. The state will only have higher child sex trafficking statistics than it already does. Studies have also reflected that sexually abused children who do not get the necessary therapy to heal from these crimes are growing up with either perversions, are hyper sexual, and/or become LGBTQ+. It's not because they were "born this way". It's because they were abused and need help. This bill would only worsen their already wounded mental state and only lead them to the risky lifestyle of drugs, STD's, and suicide. Which as reports have reflected for years, the LGBTQ+ community already has very high statistics for. So allowing minors to mutilate themselves without evaluating their mental health, receiving parental consent, or investigating why they are seeking this mutilation, is a crime in itself. Please consider opposing this bill which is going to create a larger child sexual abuse problem than we already have, leading to more unwanted pregnancies, more depression, more anxiety, and more suicides.