

HB1230  
FAVORABLE  
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Dear Delegates,

I am a mother of 4 daughters, a nurse, a volunteer who has worked with many women facing a crisis pregnancy and a member of Harford County Respect Life Coordinators.

Dismemberment – “The action of cutting off a person’s or animal’s limbs.”

Dismemberment abortion – “the purpose of causing the death of an unborn child, purposely to dismember a living unborn child and extract him or her one piece at a time from the uterus through use of clamps, grasping forceps, tongs, scissors or similar instruments that, through the convergence of two rigid levers, slice, crush, and/or grasp a portion of the unborn child’s body to cut or rip it off.

According to the Lozier Institute, studies show that an unborn baby feel pain at 12 weeks. This procedure is usually done between 13 and 24 weeks.

Our laws need to protect and defend the dignity of the human being, including the unborn child, always but especially when this child is capable of the pain of this procedure.

We are horrified when we hear of a murder and or torture where a victim has had their limbs cut from their bodies before or after their death. Why is this acceptable for a defenseless baby?

It is difficult to think and talk about what is happening to this unborn person during this procedure.

In addition to what is happening to the baby, we must consider the health and well-being of the mother. The mother is at risk of complications due to the sharp instruments used and the sharp edges of the baby’s bone fragments caused by the dismemberment. The woman is at high risk for damage or perforation of her uterus, cervix and other organs nearby. She is at risk of hemorrhage, infection, failure to carry a future pregnancy to term and even maternal death. All of this can be found in medical articles and medical journals. In Maryland, we know that these complications have occurred at the hands of Leroy Carhart.

I urge you to recognize and protect the humanity of the baby and the health and well-being of the mother and vote in favor of House Bill 1230.

Thank you.