Health and Government Operations Committee - HB626 - FAVORABLE

Chair Pendergrass, Vice Chair Pena-Melnyk, and the Health and Government Operations Committee;

I volunteer for three different reproductive justice groups, two of which are specifically involved with actively providing access to abortion. I have also repeatedly contributed money to abortion funds. Some of the actions that this bill is concerning are directly related to the work that I do. It's also very important to provide protections for people who not only seek abortions, but perform their own abortions. Pregnant people may very quickly lose their rights to their own bodies and futures under the current Supreme Court. I appreciate the purpose of this bill to protect pregnant people and those assisting them if we lose federal protections.

Please give HB626 a Favorable Report so that Maryland can continue to allow pregnant people the freedom to make their own decisions.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely, Debi Jasen Pasadena, MD