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Planned Parenthood of Maryland

Committee: House Health and Governmental Operations Committee

Bill: House Bill 1161 – Health – Abortion – Ultrasound and Waiting Period

Hearing: March 11, 2022

Position: Oppose

Planned Parenthood of Maryland strongly opposes *House Bill 1160 – Health- Ultrasound and Waiting Period*. The bill would impose a waiting period for abortion care services. A patient must wait 24-hours after an ultrasound for abortion care. Patients who live at least 100 miles away would have to wait two hours. There is no clinical basis for imposing a waiting period after an ultrasound for any health care service, including abortion care. Thus, the bill violates Health General § 20-209 which prohibits restrictions that are inconsistent with established medical standards.

We ask for unfavorable report. This bill would restrict access to abortion care for individuals who face challenges with transportation, taking time off work, or arranging child care. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.