



Ella Ennis, Legislative Chairman
Maryland Federation of Republican Women
PO Box 6040, Annapolis MD 21401
Email: eee437@comcast.net

Delegate Shane Pendergrass, Chairman
and Members of the
Health and Government Operations Committee
Maryland House of Delegates
Annapolis, Maryland

RE: **HB 626** – Pregnant Person’s Freedom Act – **OPPOSED**

Dear Chairman Pendergrass and Committee Members,

The 1,480 members of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women strongly oppose HB 626. This bill not only eliminates any restrictions on abortion at any point from conception to birth, but also eliminates any penalty for infanticide by lack of action. The bill specifically states:

Criminal Law §2-103

(f) “Nothing in this section applies to an act or failure to act of a pregnant [woman] PERSON with regard to [her] THE PERSON’S own fetus.

(H)) “This section may not be construed to authorize any form of investigation or penalty for a person:

- (1) Terminating or attempting to terminate the person’s own pregnancy; or*
- (2) **experiencing a miscarriage, perinatal death related to a failure to act, or stillbirth.**”*

Webster’s Dictionary defines “perinatal” as the period from the 20th week of pregnancy to the 28th day of newborn life. A person could cause the death of a newborn through a “failure to act” by withholding nourishment, exposing the infant to extreme temperatures, or not administering necessary medications. SB 669 would not allow prosecution for what is, by all definitions, premeditated murder.

This extension of ability to end the life of a child after birth is also inferred in HB 1171 – Declaring a Right to Reproductive Liberty as it states: “That every person...has the fundamental right to reproductive liberty which includes the right to make and effectuate decisions regarding the individual’s own reproduction, including but not limited to the ability to prevent, continue, or end their pregnancy.”

All children are precious. Our children are our future. Please give HB 626 **UNFAVORABLE** Report.

Sincerely,
Ella Ennis
Legislative Chairman