



**Committee:** House Health and Governmental Operations Committee

**Bill:** House Bill 735 – Public Health - Abortion

**Hearing:** March 11, 2022

**Position:** Oppose

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The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) opposes House Bill 735 – Public Health – Abortion. This extreme legislation would ban abortion care after 6 weeks gestational age, and it would be enforced through a private right of action. This legislation mirrors the provisions of SB 8 of Texas which has created a public health crisis. The Maryland Affiliate of ACNM is opposed to legislation designed to interfere with an individual’s autonomy in making reproductive health decisions. In 2019 after state legislatures introduced a record-breaking number of anti-reproductive health measures, ACNM – National issued a statement that “reaffirms its commitment to individual patient autonomy across the spectrum of reproductive health, including abortion.”<sup>i</sup> Therefore, we oppose this legislation and ask for an unfavorable report. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at [relliott@policypartners.net](mailto:relliott@policypartners.net).

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<sup>i</sup><https://www.midwife.org/acnm/files/cclibraryfiles/filename/000000007327/ACNM%20Opposition%20Statement%20to%20Threats%20to%20Abortion%20Care%20March%202019.pdf>