



**Committee:** House Health and Government Operations

**Bill:** House Bill 1171 - Declaration of Rights - Right to Reproductive Liberty  
House Bill 937 – Abortion Care Access Act  
House Bill 952 - Access to Abortion Care and Health Insurance Act

**Hearing Date:** February 22, 2022

**Position:** Support

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The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) strongly supports the package of bills that strengthen legal protections and improve access to abortion care services in Maryland:

- **House Bill 1171:** This bill would amend Maryland’s Constitution to protect an individual’s right to make decisions about their reproductive health care, including birth control, pregnancy, and abortion.
- **House Bill 937:** This bill would remove an outdated restriction that only a licensed physician may perform an abortion. Fourteen other states have recognized that advanced practice clinicians may provide medication and in-office procedural abortion care.
- **House Bill 952:** This bill would provide that Medicaid have abortion coverage that is equitable to private insurance, and it would also ensure that all state-regulated plans cover abortion care without cost-sharing or deductible requirements.

These bills are consistent with ACNM’s position on protecting access to the full range of reproductive health care. 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>

We ask for a favorable vote on HB 1171, HB 937, and HB 952. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at [relliott@policypartners.net](mailto:relliott@policypartners.net).

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