

HADASSAH The Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc.

## Testimony in Support of SB341 Public Senior Higher Education Institutions – Reproductive Health Services Plans Energy Education and the Environment Committee February 22, 2023

## **FAVORABLE**

TO: Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and members of the Energy, Education and

**Environment Committee** 

FROM: Kay Schuster and Ellen Sizemore, Co-Presidents

Hadassah Greater Baltimore

Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc. holds reproductive choice is an important issue to ensure all women have agency over their own bodies and the autonomy to make health decisions for themselves. As the Greater Baltimore Region of Hadassah, representing over 4,100 Marylanders, we are writing to urge you to support SB 341, a bill that will ensure that public universities develop plans to provide a comprehensive range of reproductive health services to students at the institution or referral to a facility that does so.

Hadassah has and always will stand unequivocally for reproductive choice and empowering women with the knowledge to make critical health decisions for themselves and their families. Any interference with the doctor-patient relationship – preventing doctors from discussing women's specific concerns, sharing expert medical guidance, or providing necessary care – poses a serious threat to women's health.

Reproductive freedom is critical to women's health and all persons should be able to make reproductive health choices based on medical guidance and what they feel is best for their health, families, and future. This legislation will help provide comprehensive health care to students and enable them to make informed decisions.

We strongly urge you to support SB 341 to protect reproductive freedom and expand access at public universities.

Thank you,
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