SB0798 - Declaration of Rights - Right to Reproductive Freedom - AGAINST

Submitted by:

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As a Marylander, I strongly oppose SB0798/HB0705. Why? –

- Maryland law already is extreme on abortion. The Maryland Freedom of Choice Act (1991) allows abortion-on-demand, for any reason and up until birth. Sadly Maryland is already an 'abortion destination' even for late-term abortions.
- Maryland is one of only four states that forces taxpayers to pay for other people's abortions. I don't force someone to pay for my medical or lifestyle choices and so why do I have to fund abortions?
- Maryland is one of only three states that shield abortionists from liability by refusing to report abortion data to the CDC. As a result, Maryland is failing to address women's reproductive health and the incidents of abortion-related maternal injury and death or risks of future miscarriage, pre-term birth or loss of fertility.
- Under this proposed legislation physicians, hospitals and other healthcare providers will be compelled to participate in abortion, in violation of their rights of conscience and free exercise of religion.
- And if all of the above is not horrid enough, this proposed bill will infringe on the
 Freedom of Speech guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States, by barring all
 future attempts to pass lifesaving legislation such as partial birth abortion or
 dismemberment bans.
- Finally, pro-life pregnancy centers will be put in jeopardy. Even if you want to abort your baby, shouldn't there be options available for those who need assistance and support to choose life for their baby?

As legislators, you should be representing and <u>protecting the rights of all Marylanders</u> to the very best of your ability and not further creating an abortion mecca here in Maryland. We all deserve better! Please oppose this horrid, deadly and oppressive legislation.

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