

Opposition Statement SB669

Registered Nurse Degree Apprenticeship Program Workgroup Deborah Brocato, Legislative Consultant Maryland Right to Life

We Oppose SB669

On behalf of our 200,000 followers across the state, we respectfully object to SB669. While apprenticeships for individuals to become registered nurses is a positive in general, we oppose this bill being used to develop programs for use as a recruitment and/or training tool for the abortion industry workforce. We oppose any funds for this bill being used to develop programs for the abortion industry. We oppose this workgroup being used to promote the abortion industry via this program. Maryland Right to Life strongly recommends an amendment added with language that would exclude abortion purposes from this bill.

Maryland Right to Life opposes the further erosion of medical care for the women and girls of Maryland. Surgical and medical abortions carry a risk of injury up to and including death. Surgical abortions are invasive and the woman or girl risks injuries including a punctured uterus, incomplete abortion, lacerations to the vagina and cervix, sepsis, and death. The risks for a woman or girl taking the abortion pill include hemorrhage, sepsis, incomplete abortion, menstrual abnormalities and death. The women and girls of Maryland deserve the care of trained, licensed physicians. The Abortion Care Access Act of 2022 removed the physician requirement for women and girls seeking abortion.

The medical scarcity in abortion practice is a matter of medical ethics not provider scarcity, as 9 out of 10 OB/Gyn's refuse to commit abortions because they recognize the scientific fact that a human fetus is a living human being. To increase the number of abortions thereby increasing revenue, the abortion industry seeks legislation to (1) authorize lower-skilled workers and non-physicians to perform abortion, and (2) authorize abortionists to remotely prescribe abortion pills across state lines.

The abortion industry could easily use this bill to develop programs for creating a pipeline of participants for the abortion industry workforce.

Abortion is not healthcare and abortion is never medically necessary. A miscarriage is the ending of a pregnancy *after* the baby has died; an ectopic pregnancy is not a viable pregnancy and the baby cannot continue to develop. Abortion is the destruction of a developing human being and often causes physical and psychological injury to the mother. In the black community, abortion has reached epidemic proportions with half of pregnancies of Black women ending in abortion. The abortion industry has long targeted the Black community with 78% of abortion clinics located in minority communities. **Abortion is the leading killer of black lives.** See www.BlackGenocide.org.



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Maryland is one of only 4 states that forces taxpayer funding of abortion. Maryland taxpayers should not be forced to subsidize the recruitment and training of workers for the abortion industry, especially workers that put the health of women and girls in jeopardy. The state of Maryland must not continue to sponsor the abortion industry in its taxpayer funded programs.

Americans oppose taxpayer funding of abortion. The 2023 Marist poll shows that 60% of Americans, pro-life and pro-choice, oppose taxpayer funding of abortion. 81% of Americans favor public funds being prioritized for health and family planning services that save the lives of mothers and their children including programs for improving maternal health and birth and delivery outcomes, well baby care and parenting classes.

For these reasons, we ask for an unfavorable report on SB669.